

# Microvascular Materials for Mass and Energy Transport

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2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Multifunctional Materials Meeting  
PM: Dr. "Les" Lee

Award FA9550-12-1-0352

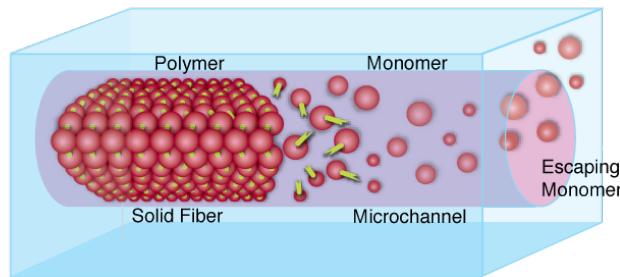


**UCIRVINE**

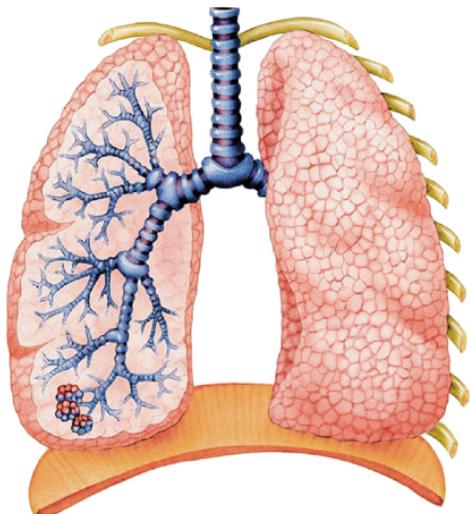
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a. REPORT <b>unclassified</b>	b. ABSTRACT <b>unclassified</b>	c. THIS PAGE <b>unclassified</b>		

# Micro-Vascular Exchange Units : Bio-Inspired Energy & Mass Transfer

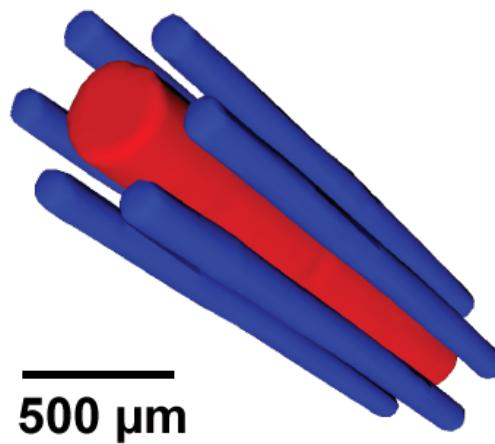
## VaSC – Vaporization of a Sacrificial Component



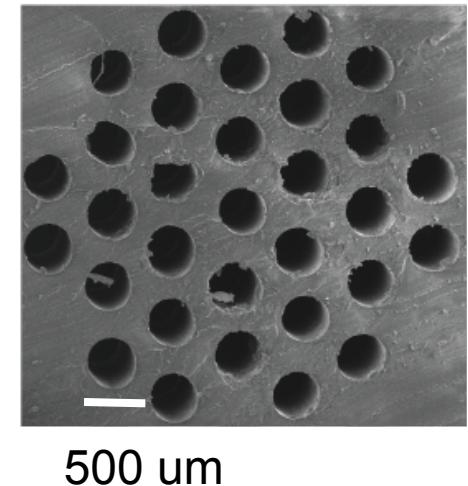
Our Motivation



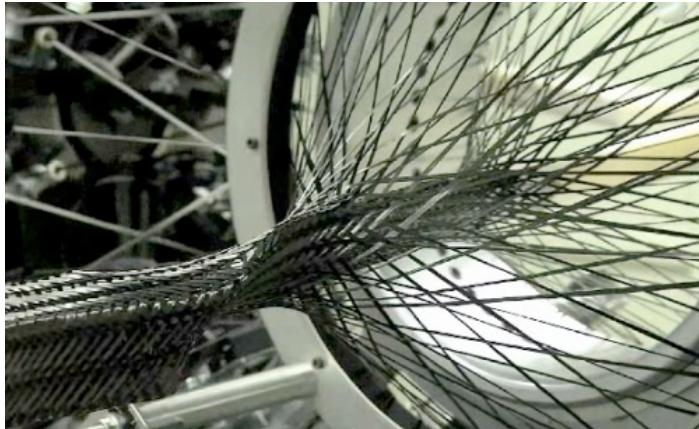
Exchange Unit



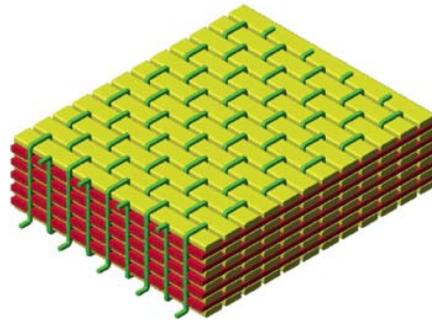
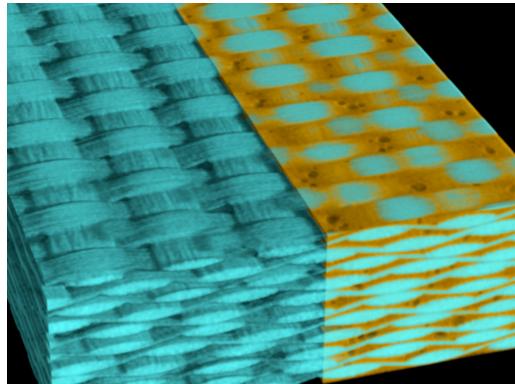
Optimization



# Fiber Reinforced Composites



**Fiber Composite,  
Stronger, Lighter**



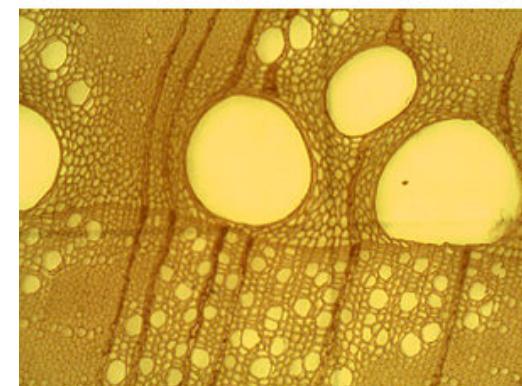
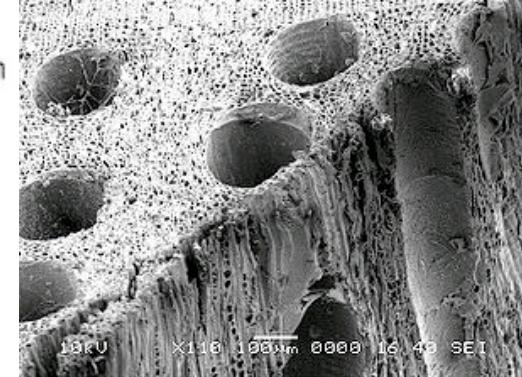
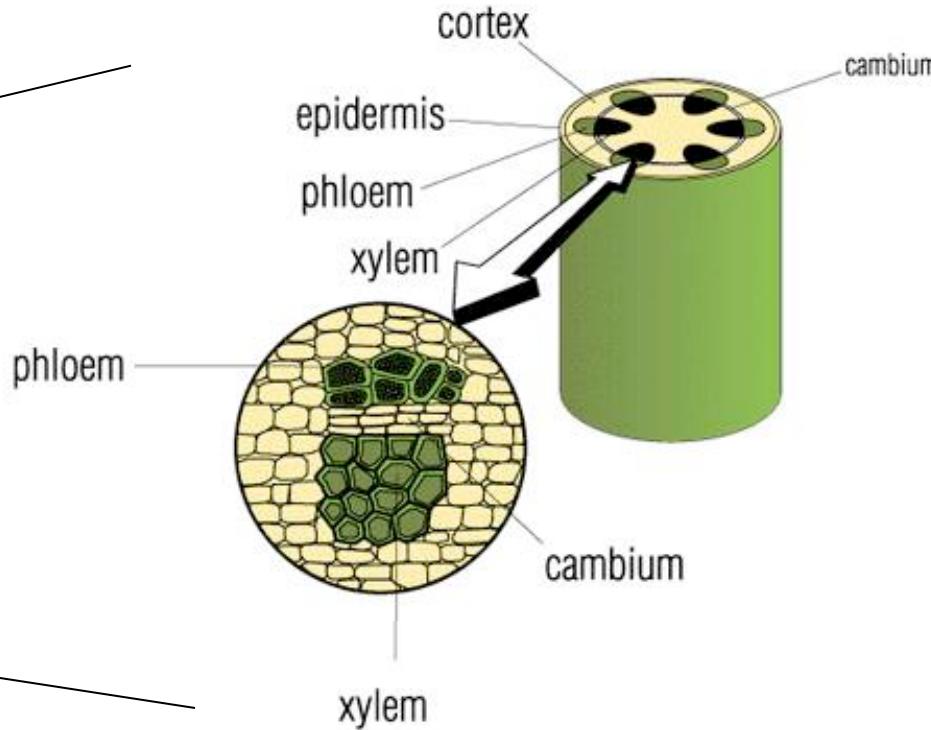
**Interwoven fibers provide strength**



**50% Composite, 30% Lighter**

# Trees: Nature's Composites

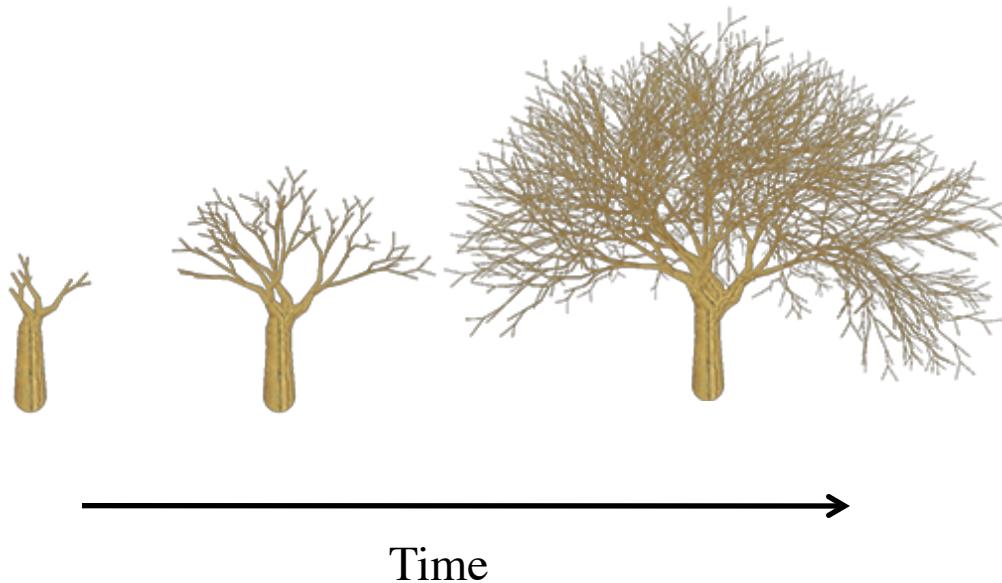
Pacific Yew Tree



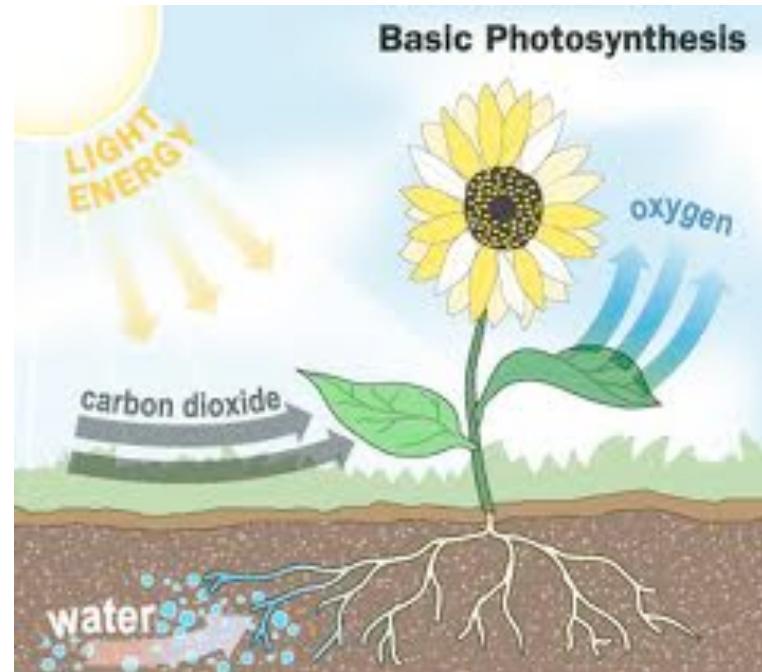
# Vasculation Creates Living Materials

E/M Transport + Regional Chemistry = Growth, Homeostasis, Communication

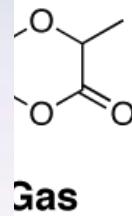
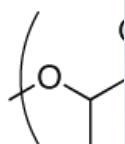
## Growth



## Reactivity

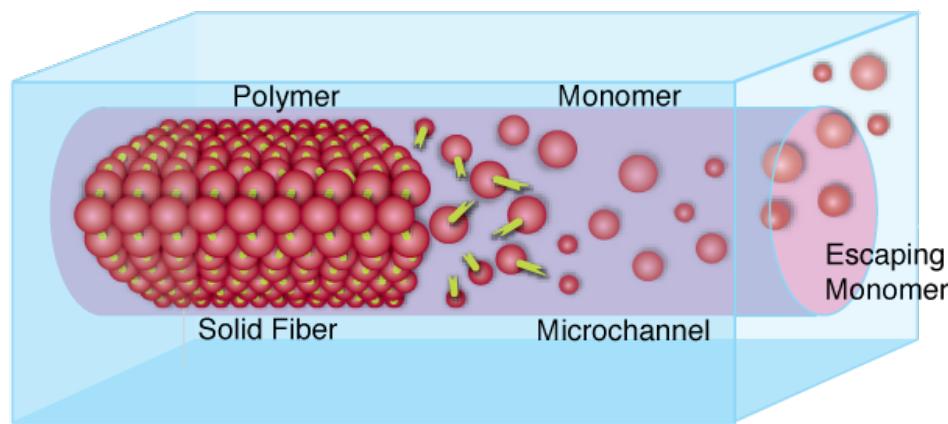


# VaSC – Vaporization of a Sacrificial Component



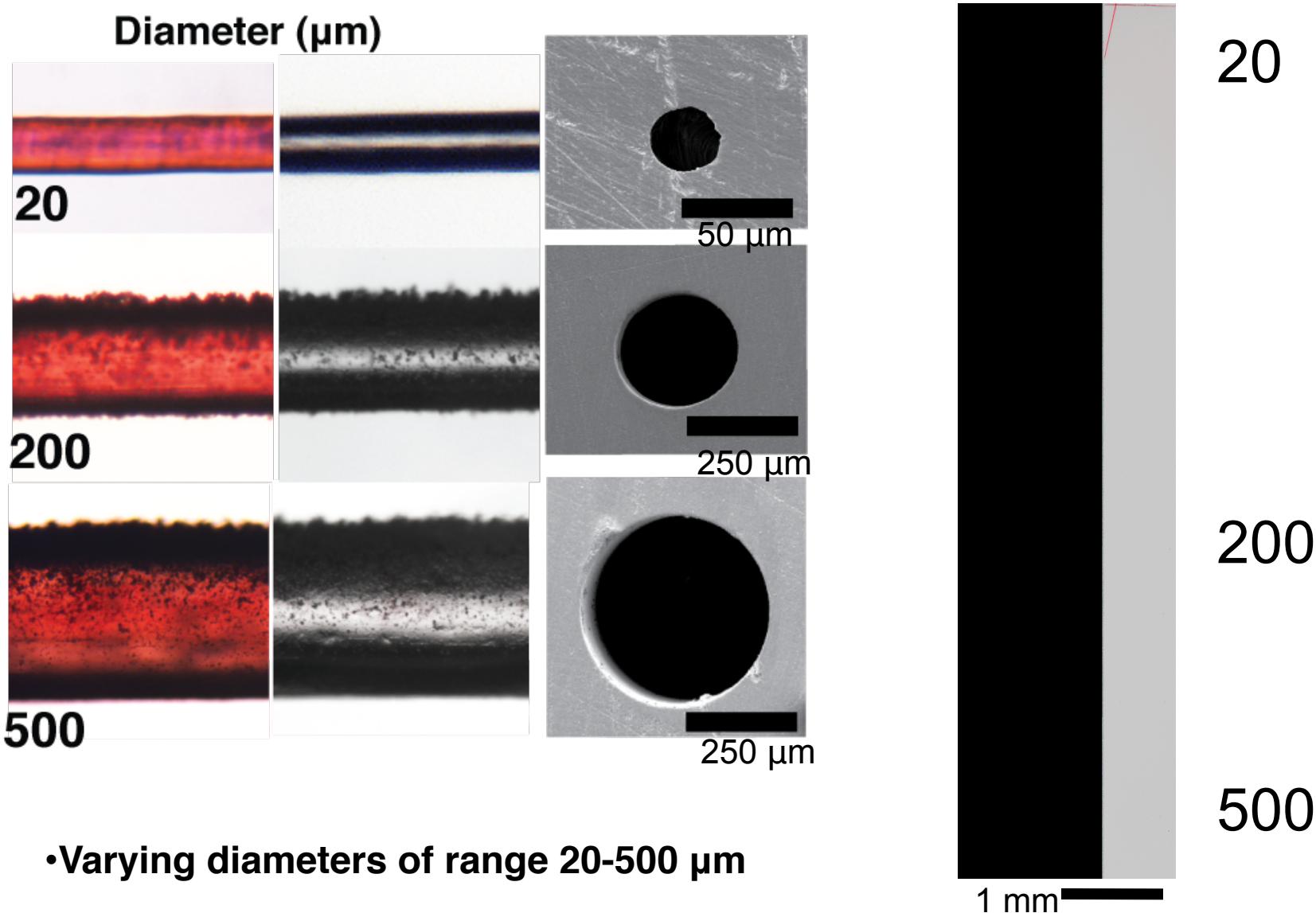
## Gas

200 °C



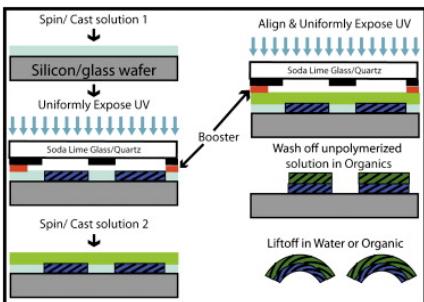
## Empty Channel

# Size Range & Connection of Fibers

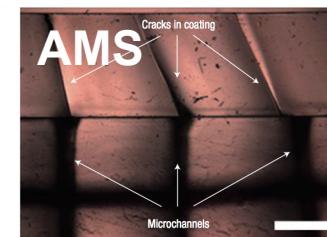
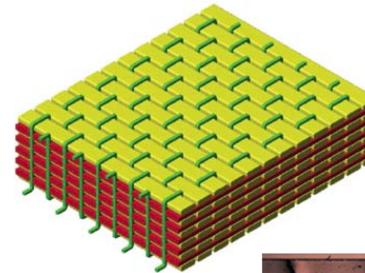


# Different Micro-Fabrication Methods for Materials: Hamburger to Celery

## Lithography



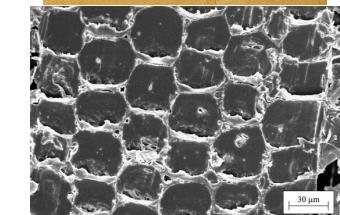
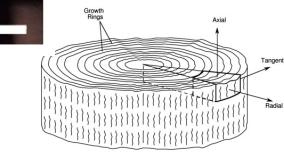
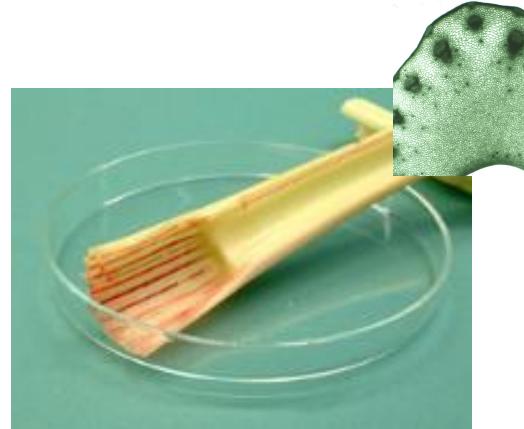
## 3D Techniques



## Big Mac Assembly



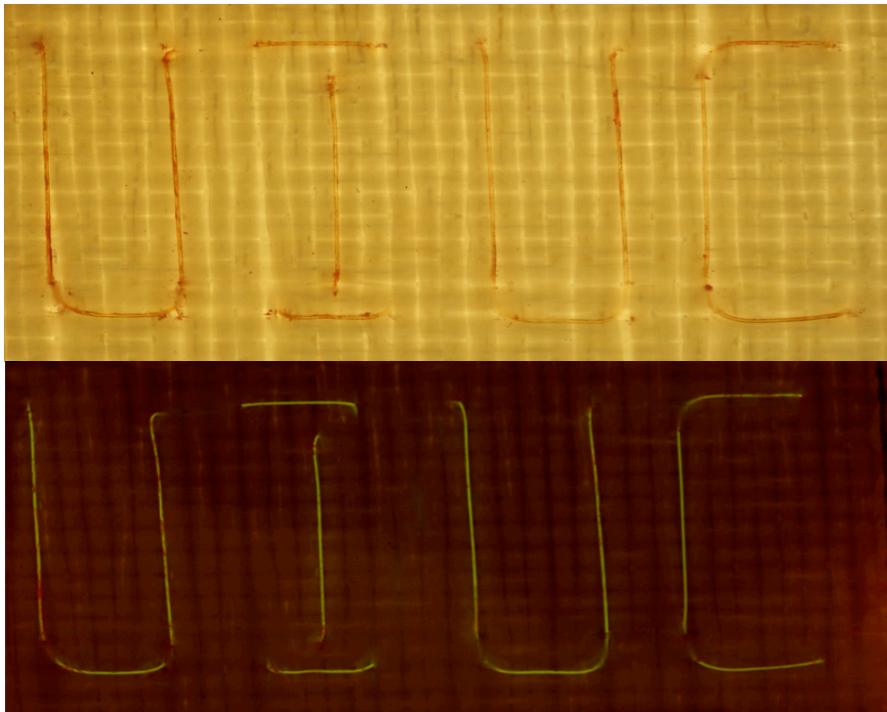
## Celery Assembly



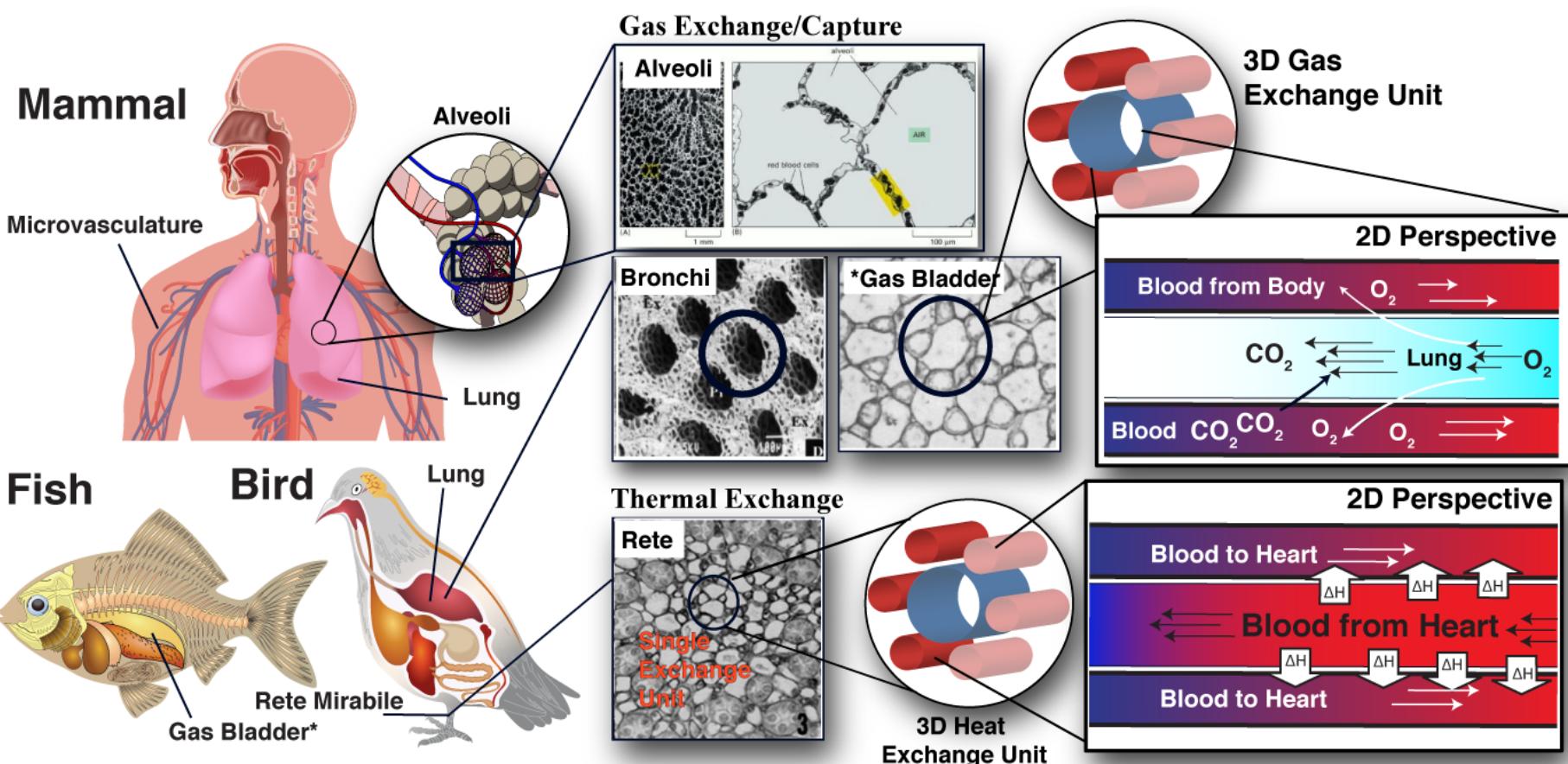
# Fibers Can be Woven Into Composite Materials

Channel extends  
over 0.5 meter!

And Deformed to  
Complex Geometries



# Nature: A brilliant chemgineer



In Nature Thermal And Gas Exchange Are Based On Same Structures

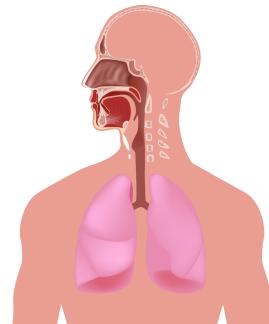
# Just how efficient are natural structures?



$2 \times 10^{12} \text{ KwH} \cdot \text{yr}^{-1}$

$85 \times 10^{10} \text{ L} \cdot \text{CO}_2 \cdot \text{yr}^{-1}$

**Lungs are some of the most efficient structures known**



**3 million  
(0.5 million max cap)**

**0.1% total energy**

Breathing Capacity of Lung

Resting  $0.5 \cdot \text{L} \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$

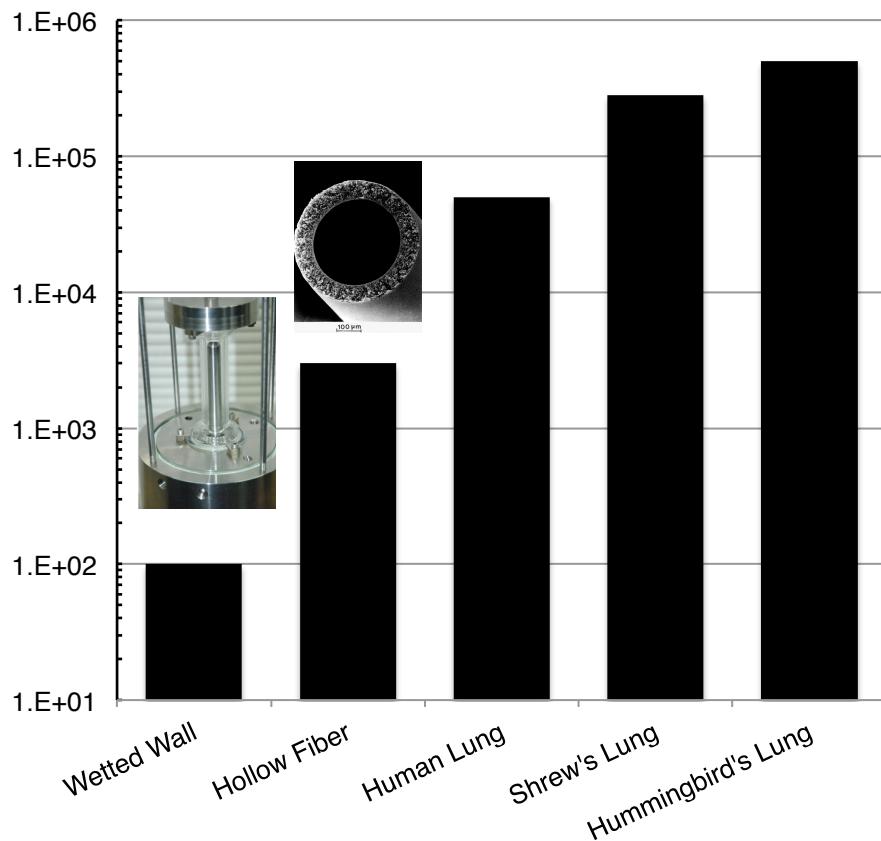
Max. Cap.  $3.0 \cdot \text{L} \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$

DOE, NETL, 2008 CO<sub>2</sub> report

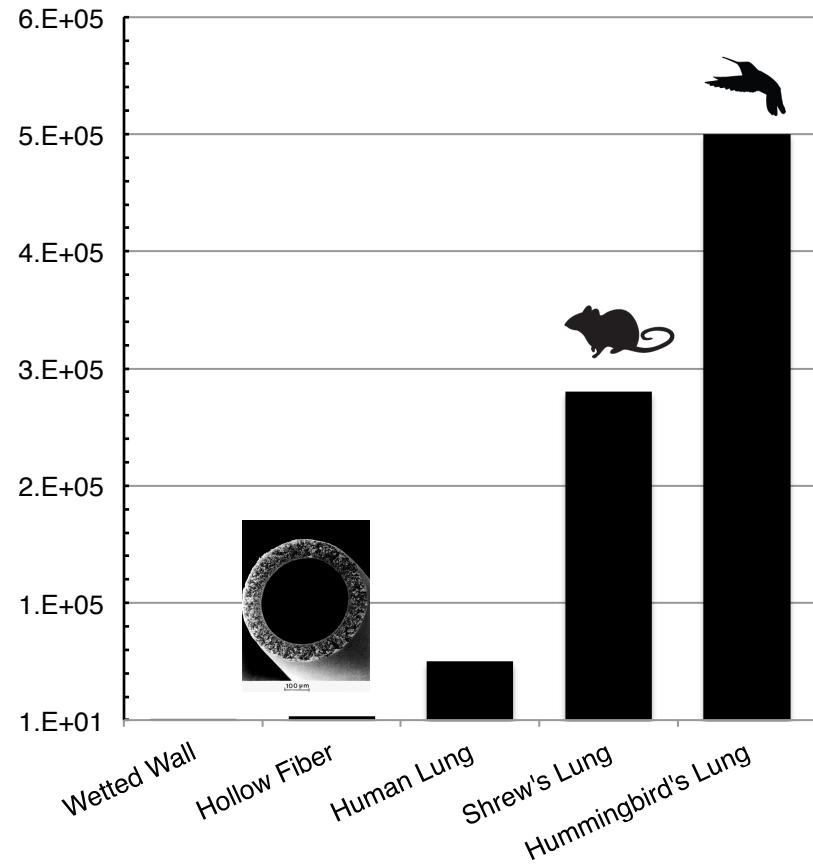
Merck – Lung Guide

# Man-Made Exchangers vs. Natural Exchangers

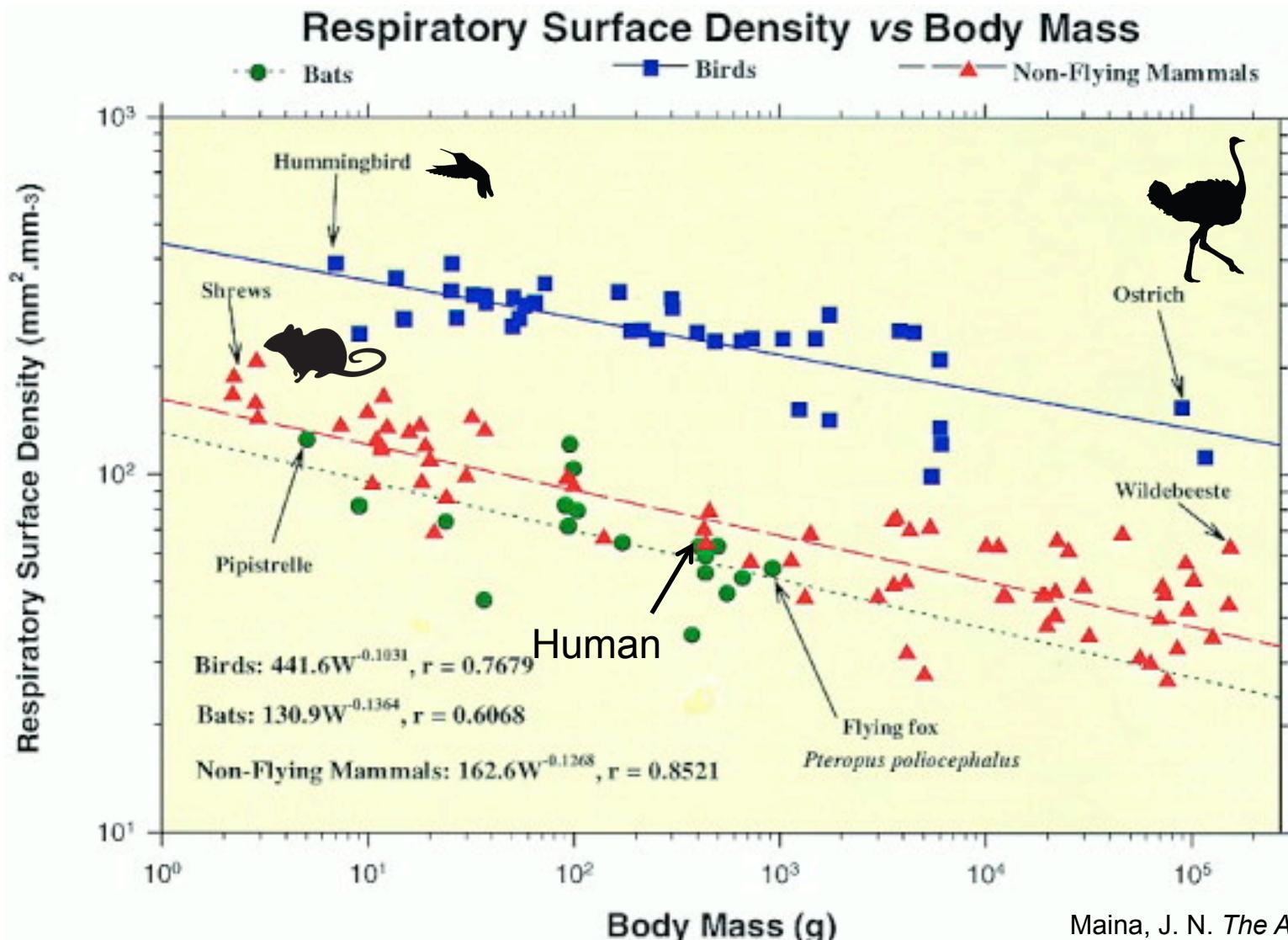
Log Plot Specific Surface Area  
( $\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$ )



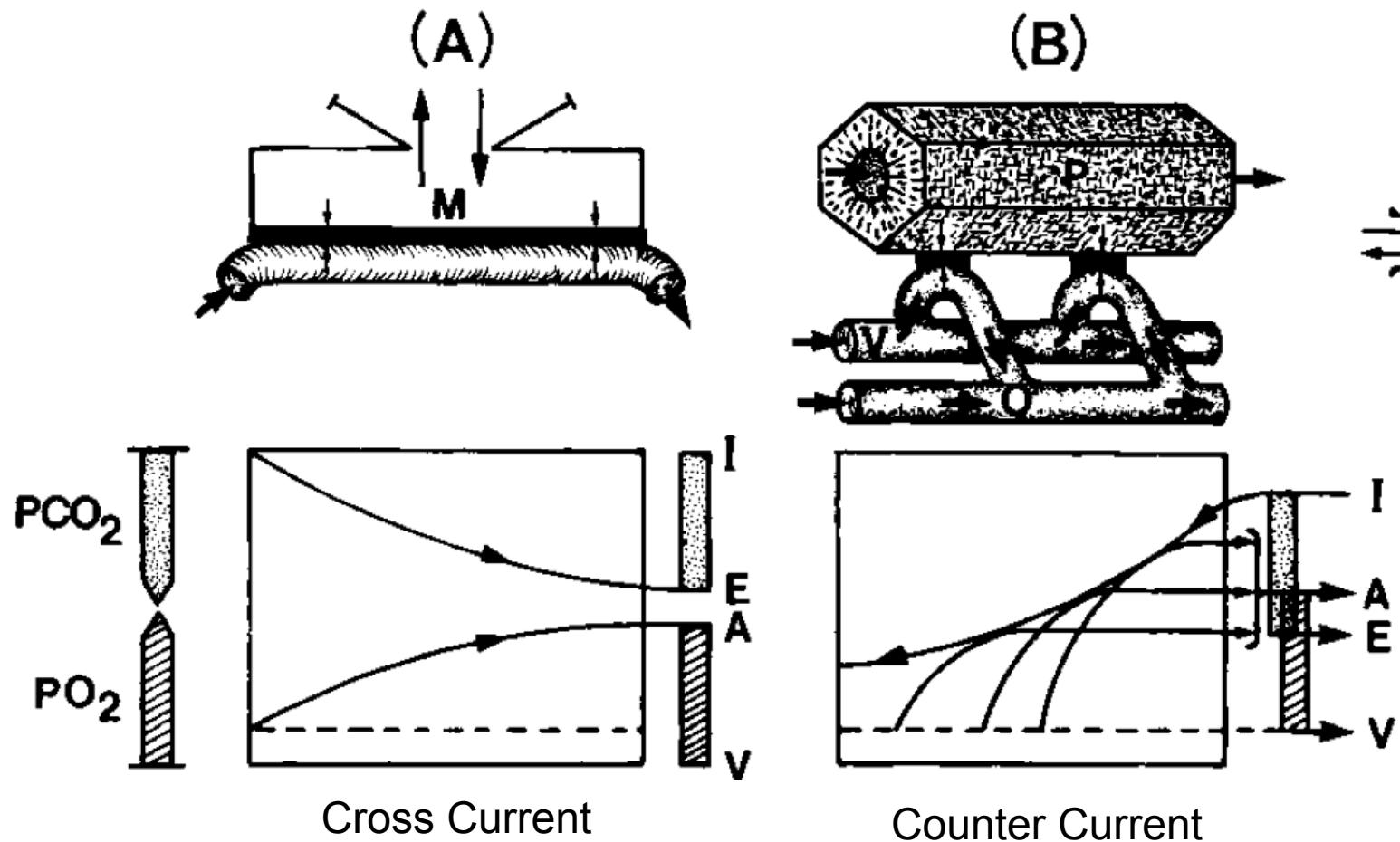
Specific Surface Area  
( $\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$ )



# Natural Systems – Scalable Solutions



# What makes avian lung so appealing?

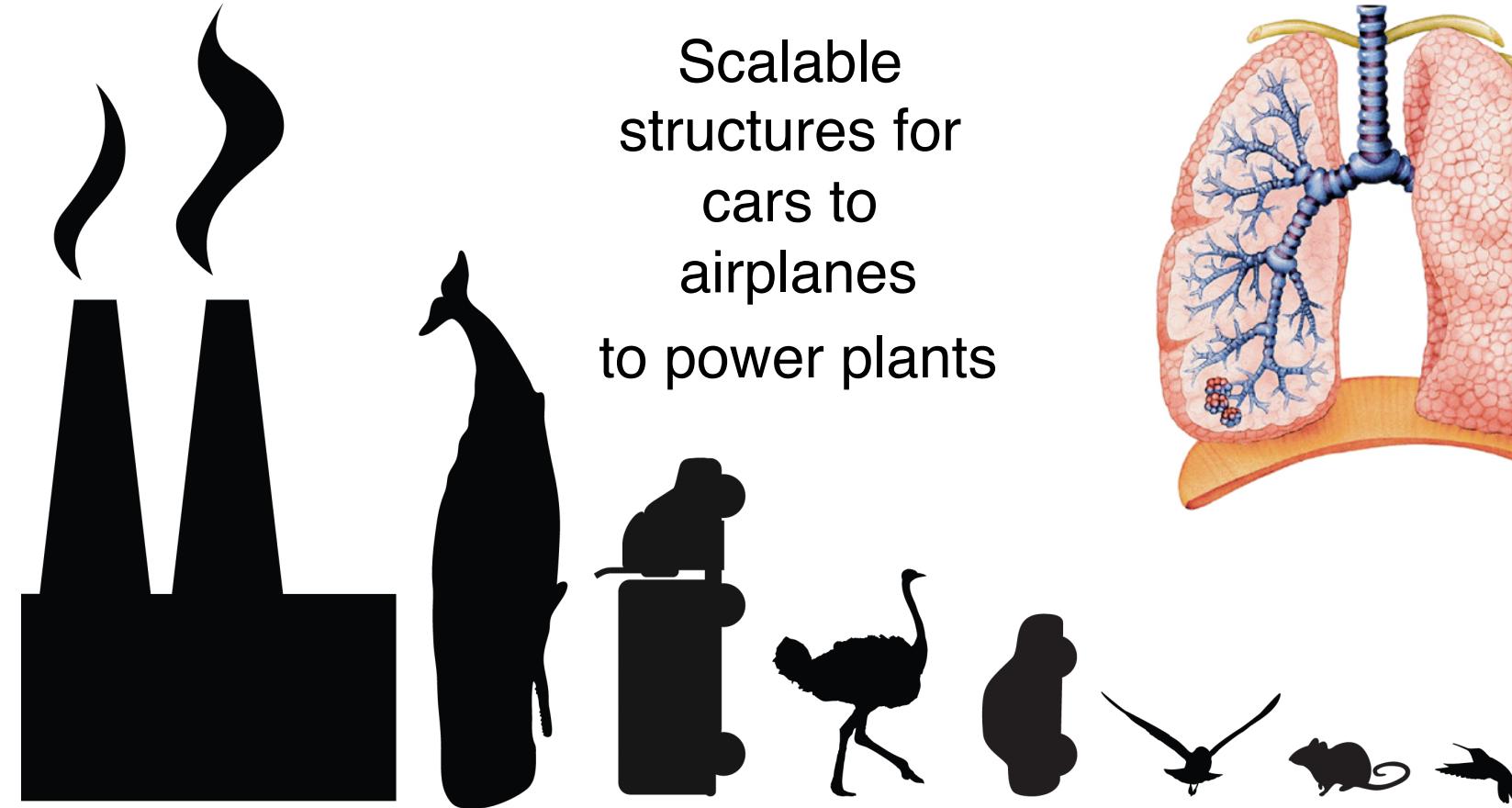
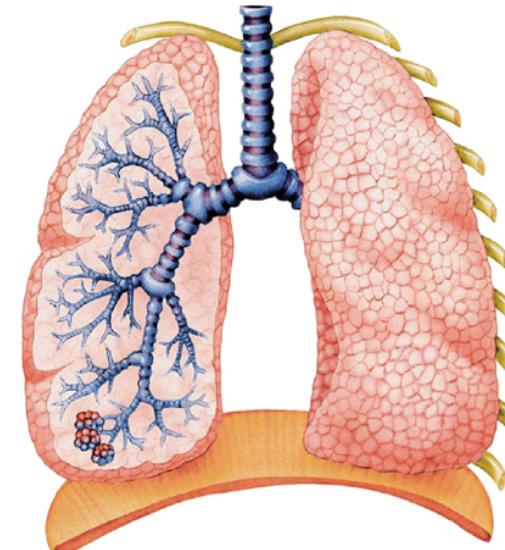


# Building A Model Exchange Unit

Each system has single, repeating Exchange Unit

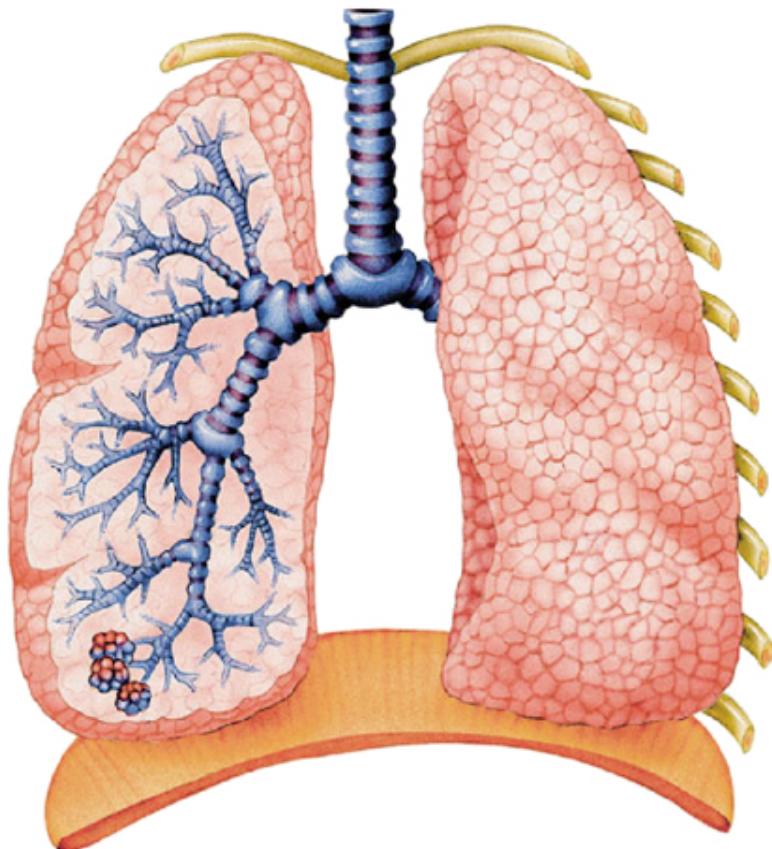
**Our Goal: *Develop Optimized Gas Exchange Unit***

Scalable  
structures for  
cars to  
airplanes  
to power plants



# Applicable Properties of Natural System

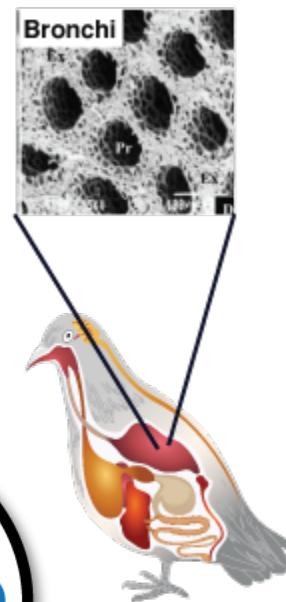
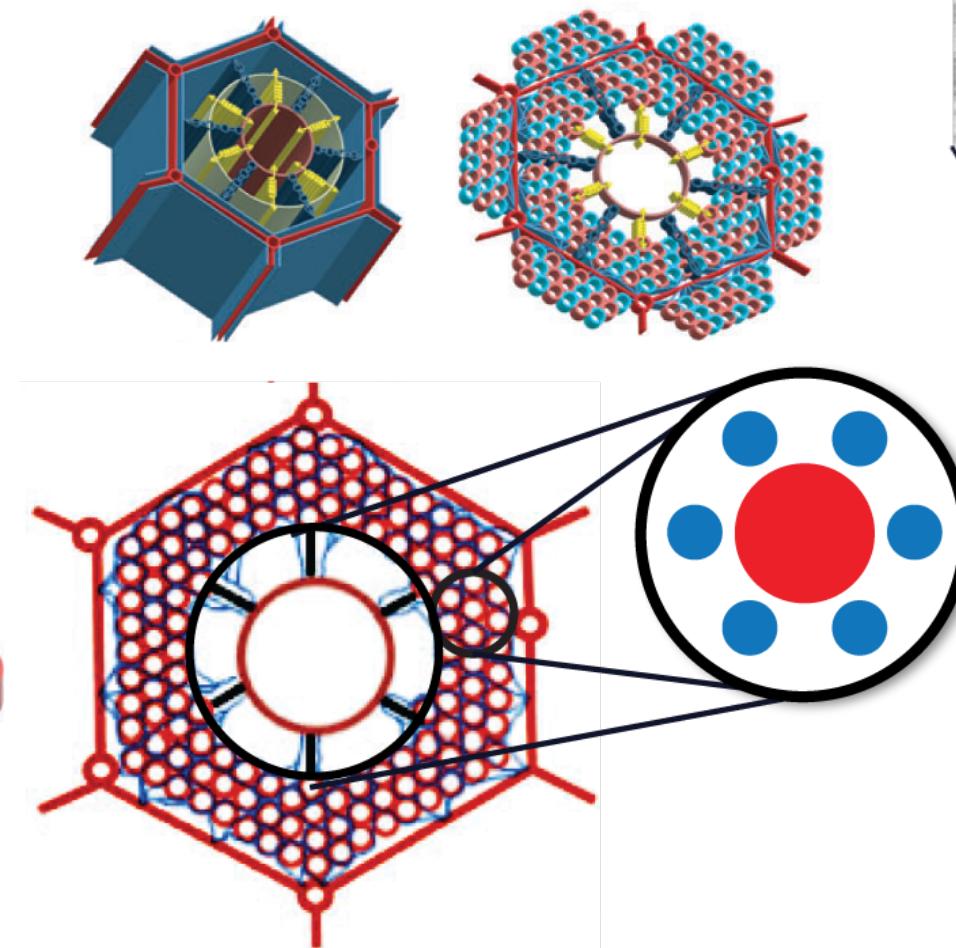
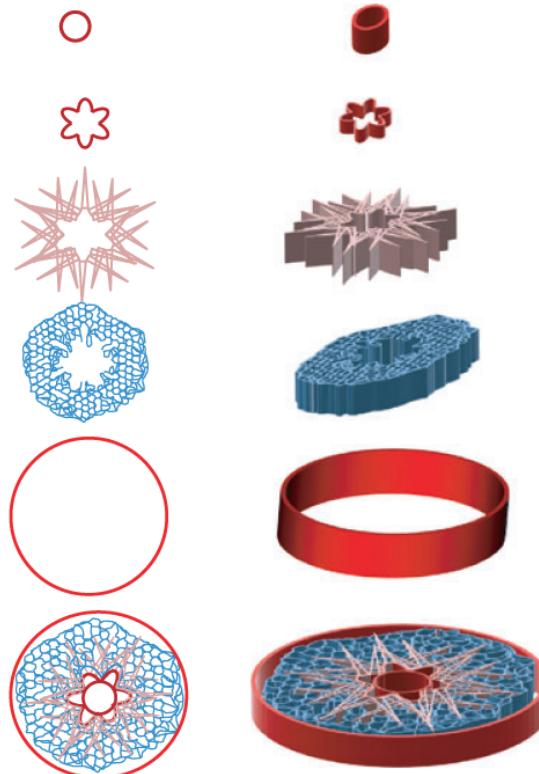
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- Surface Area
  - 3D arrangement
- Surface Chemistry
- Hierarchical Arrangement
- Compartmentalized Transfer
  - Heat transfer
  - Mass Transfer

# What will our exchange unit look like?

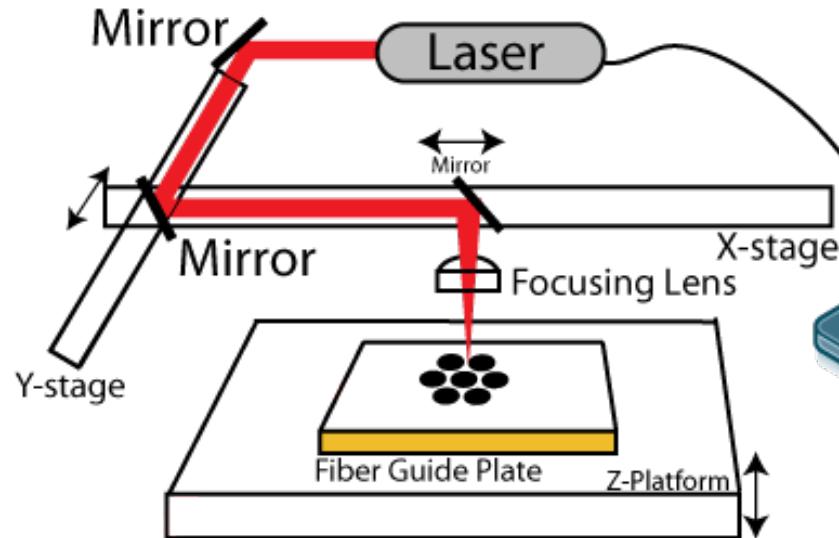
Transverse view   Three dimensional view



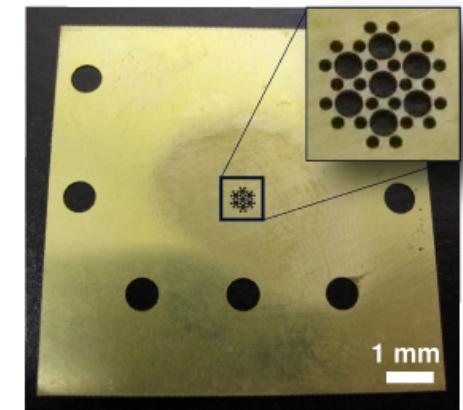
We Needed A Way to Create An Experimental Platform for Exploring Structure!

# Making an Exchange Unit

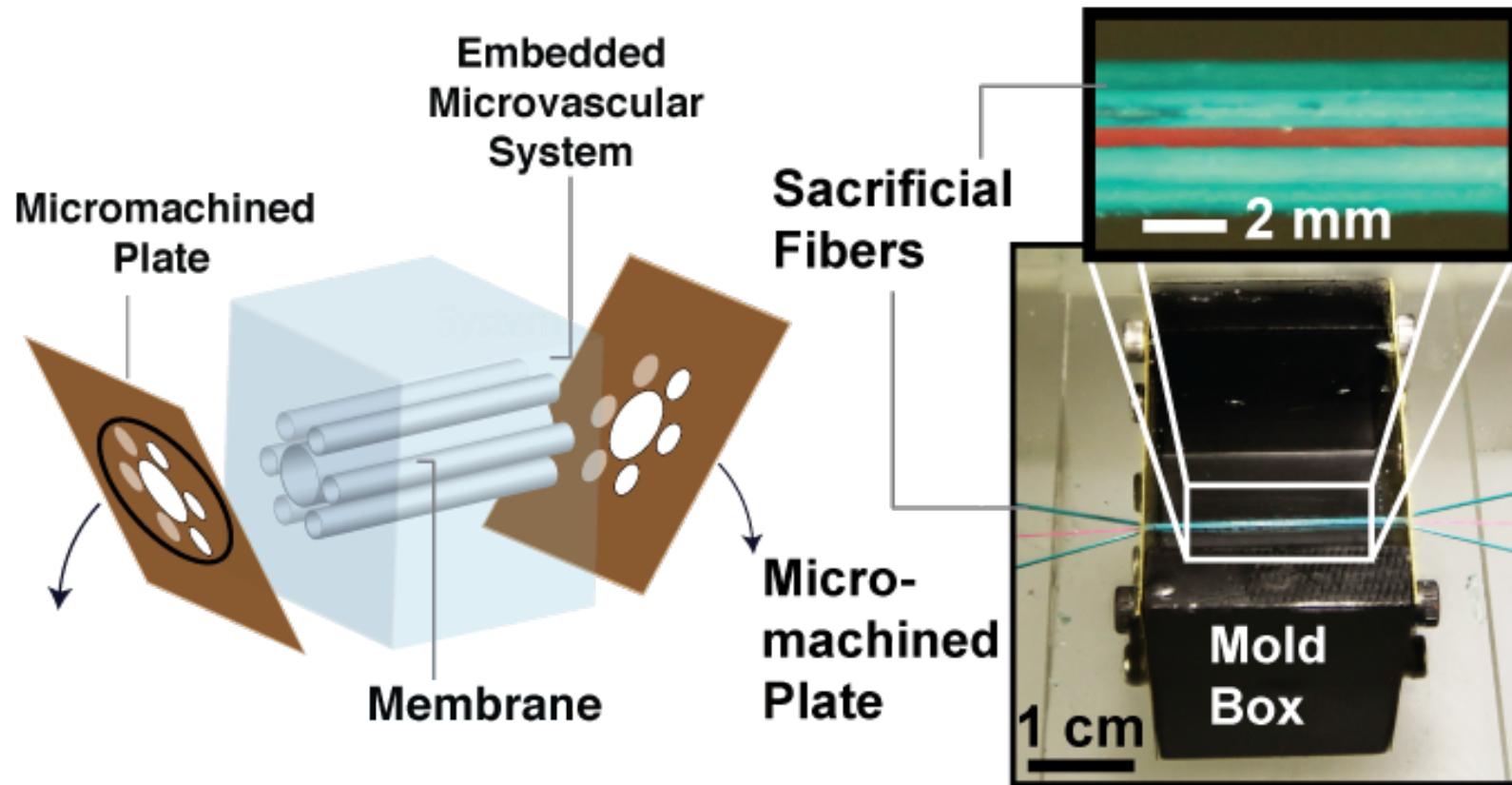
## Computer Aided Micro-Machining



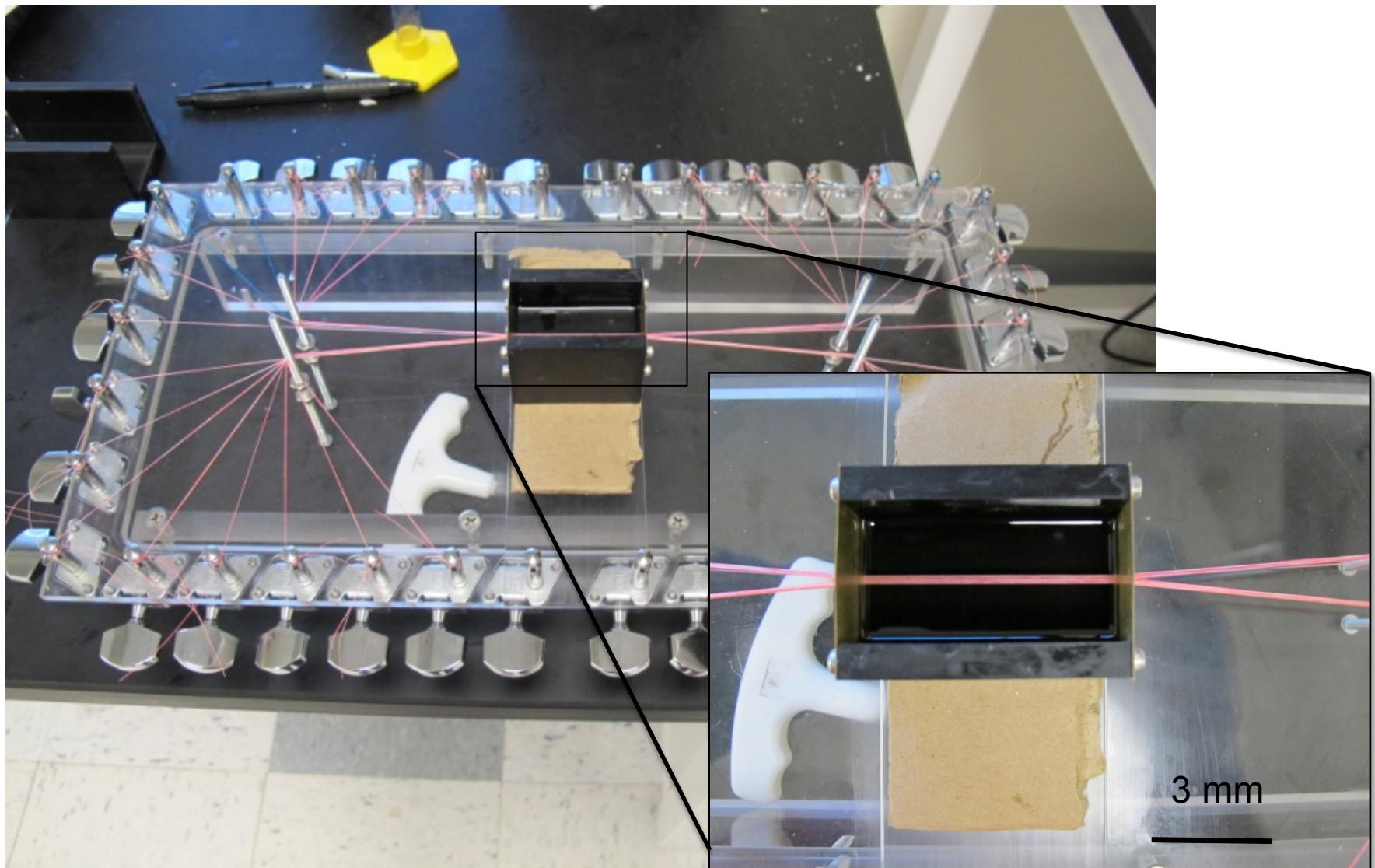
## AutoCAD Design



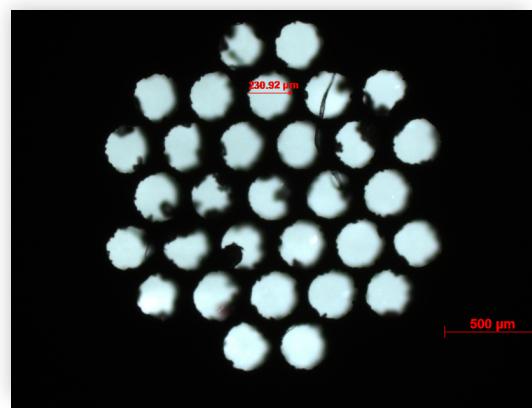
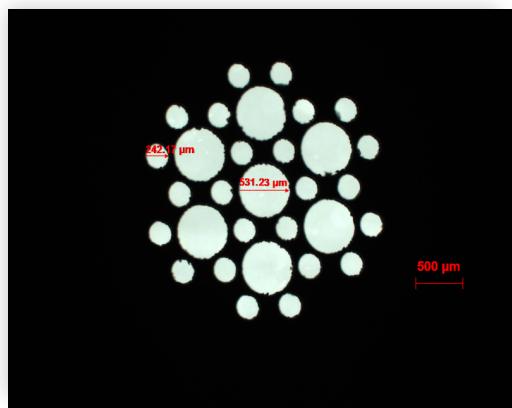
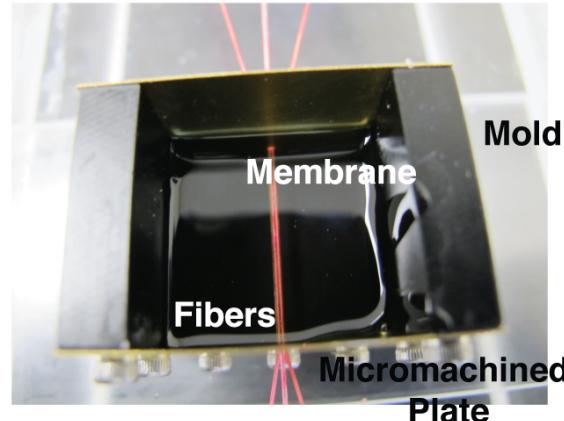
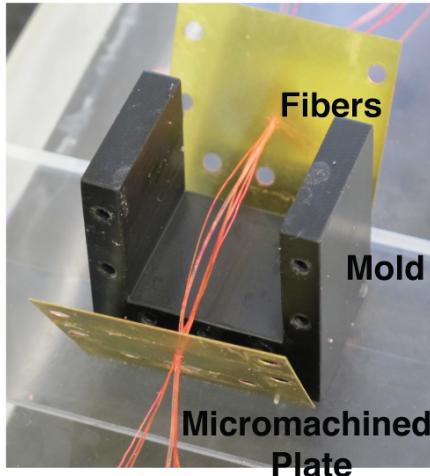
# Patterning An Exchange Unit



# Established Fiber Tensioning Technology



# Replication molding of natural patterns in 3D





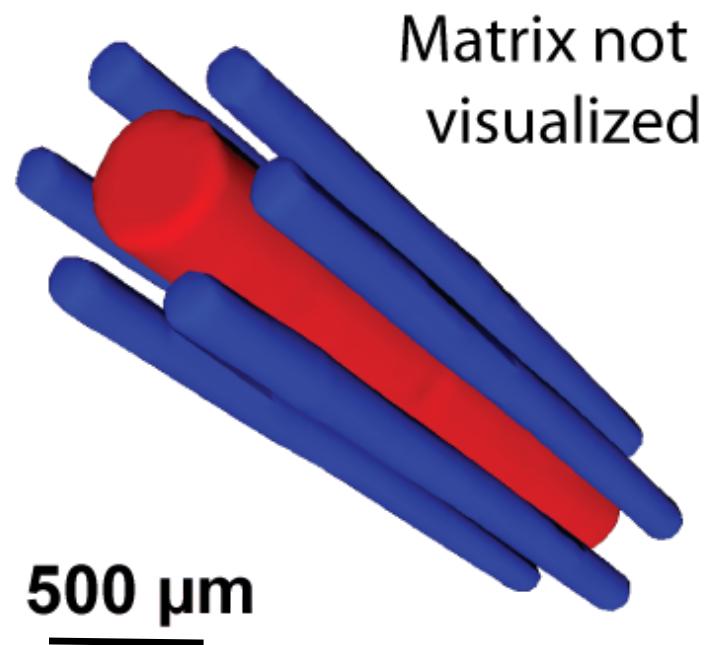
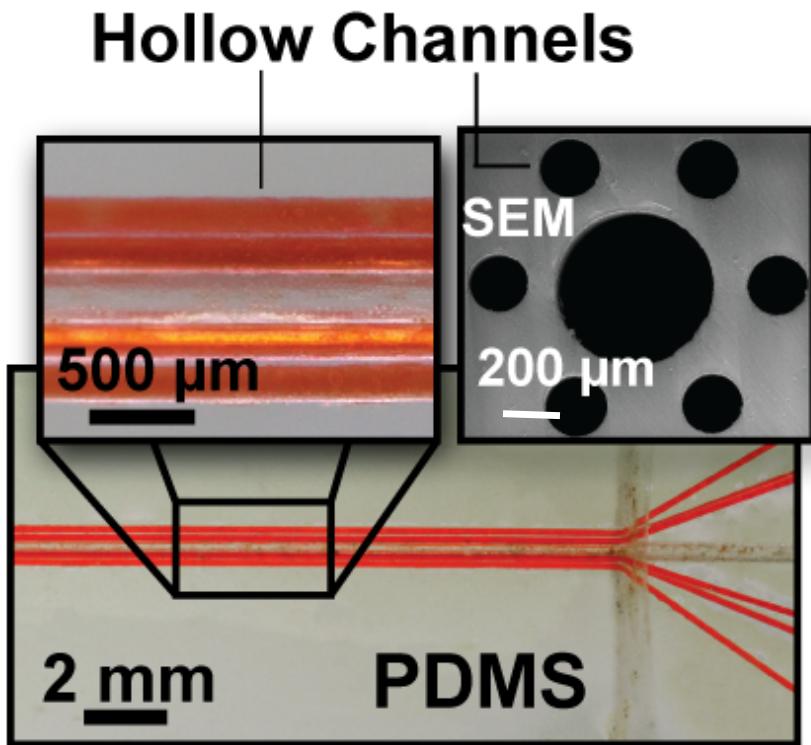
500 microns



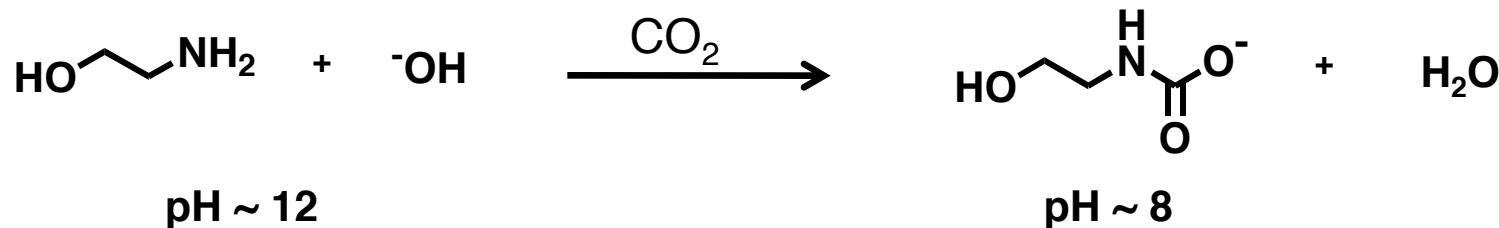
Micro CT

Not Model

# Analysis of Replication Molding



# Observing Transfer In Exchange Unit



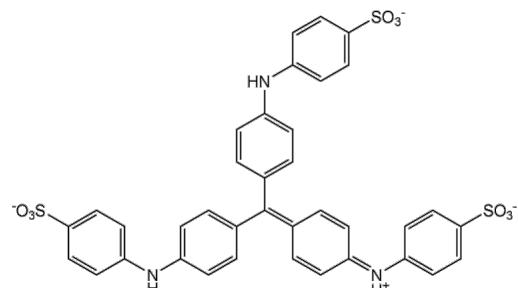
ANSWER

pH 12

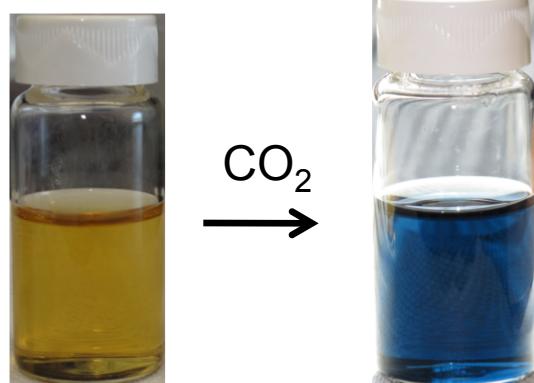
pH 8

pH ~ 8

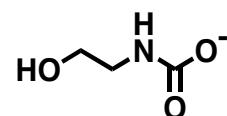
Color changing reaction can be used to quantify rate of transfer



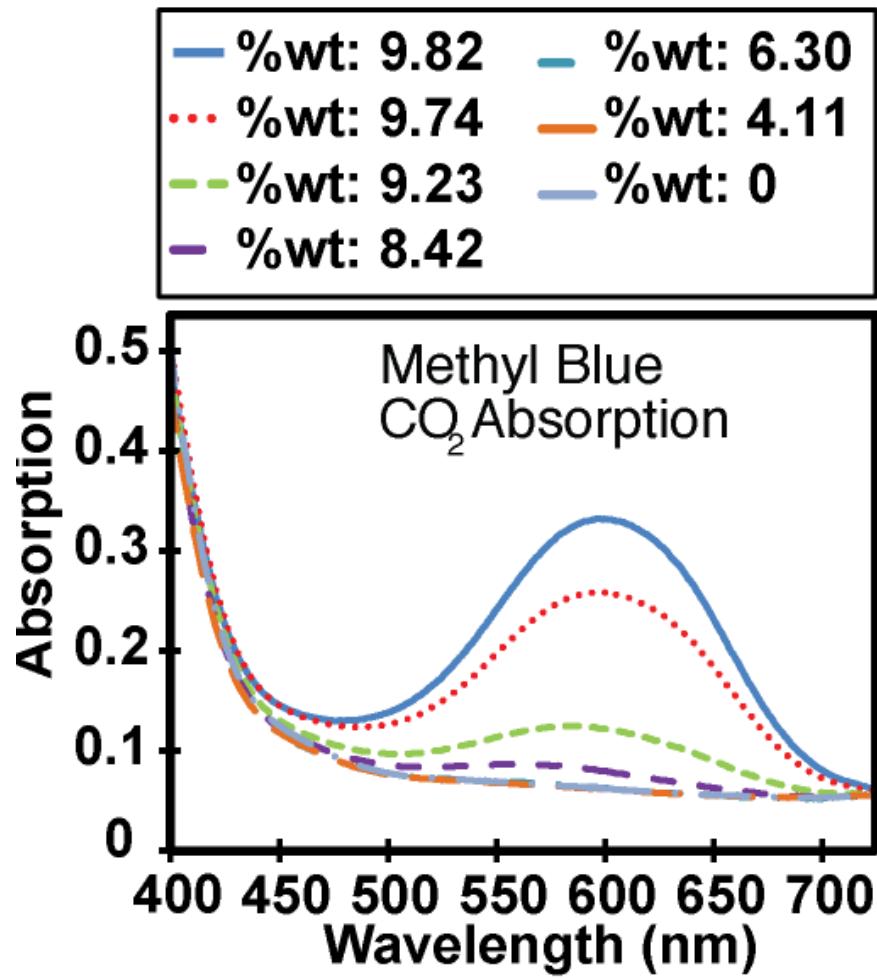
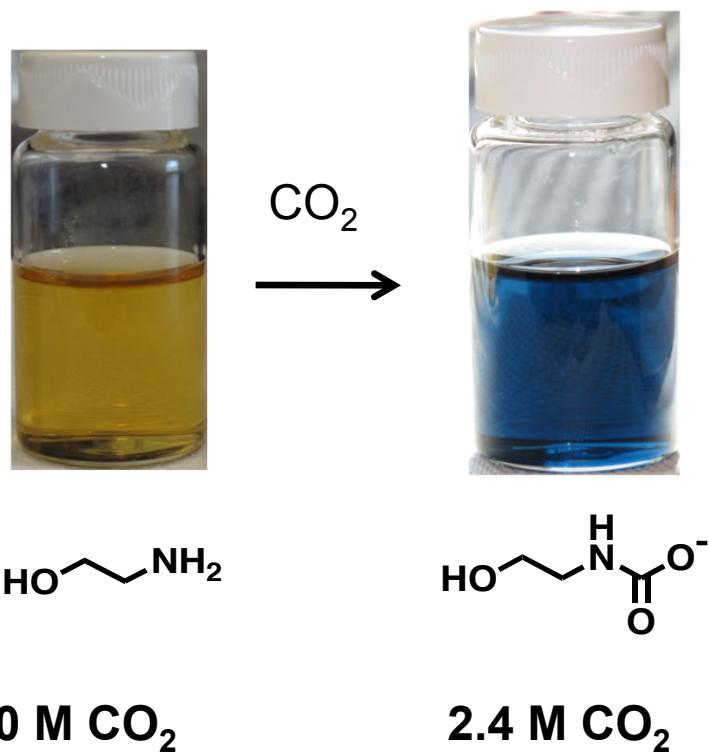
## Methyl Blue



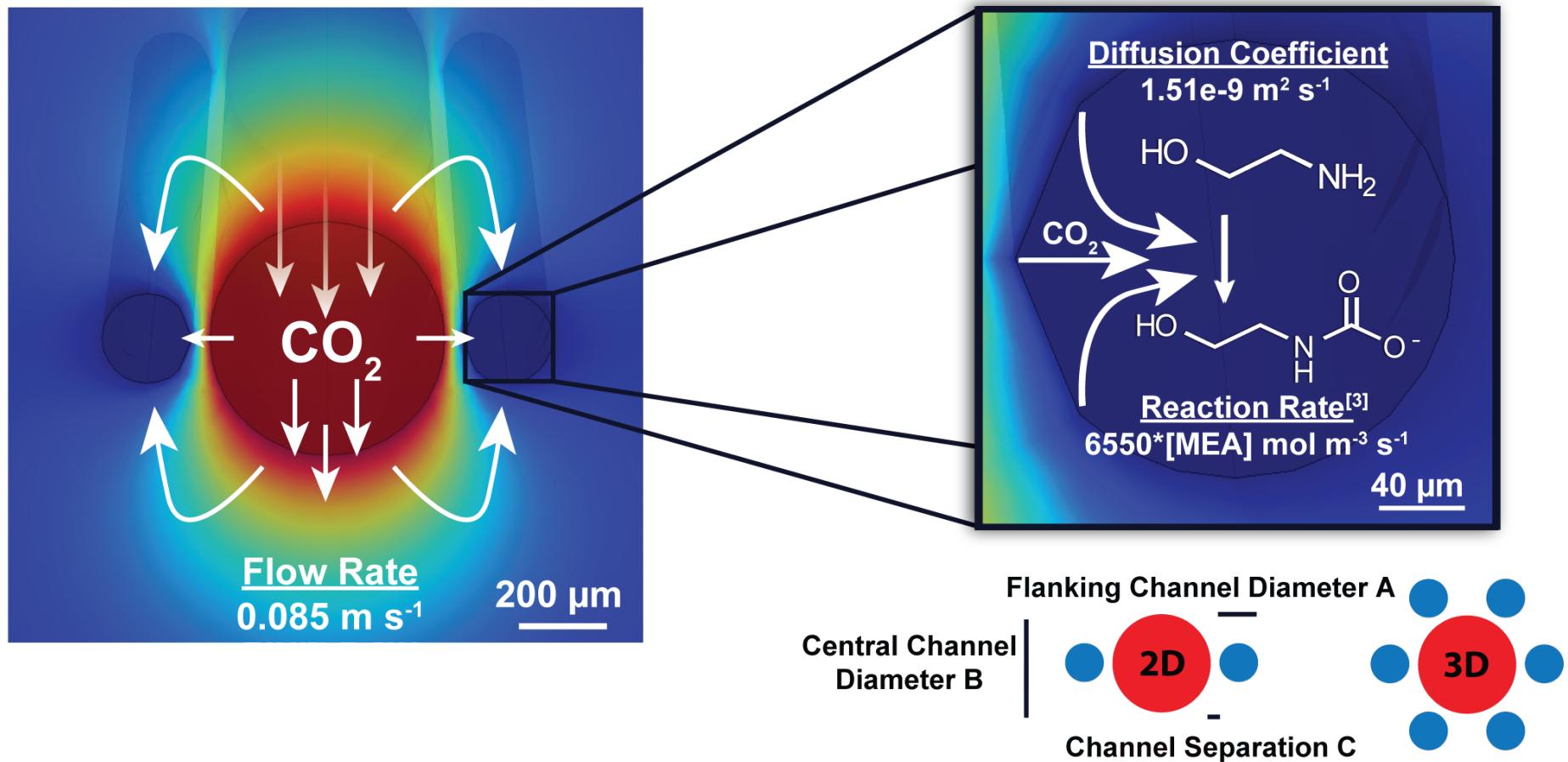
Blue = 10 w%



# Observing CO<sub>2</sub> Absorption



# Modeling to Understand Experiment

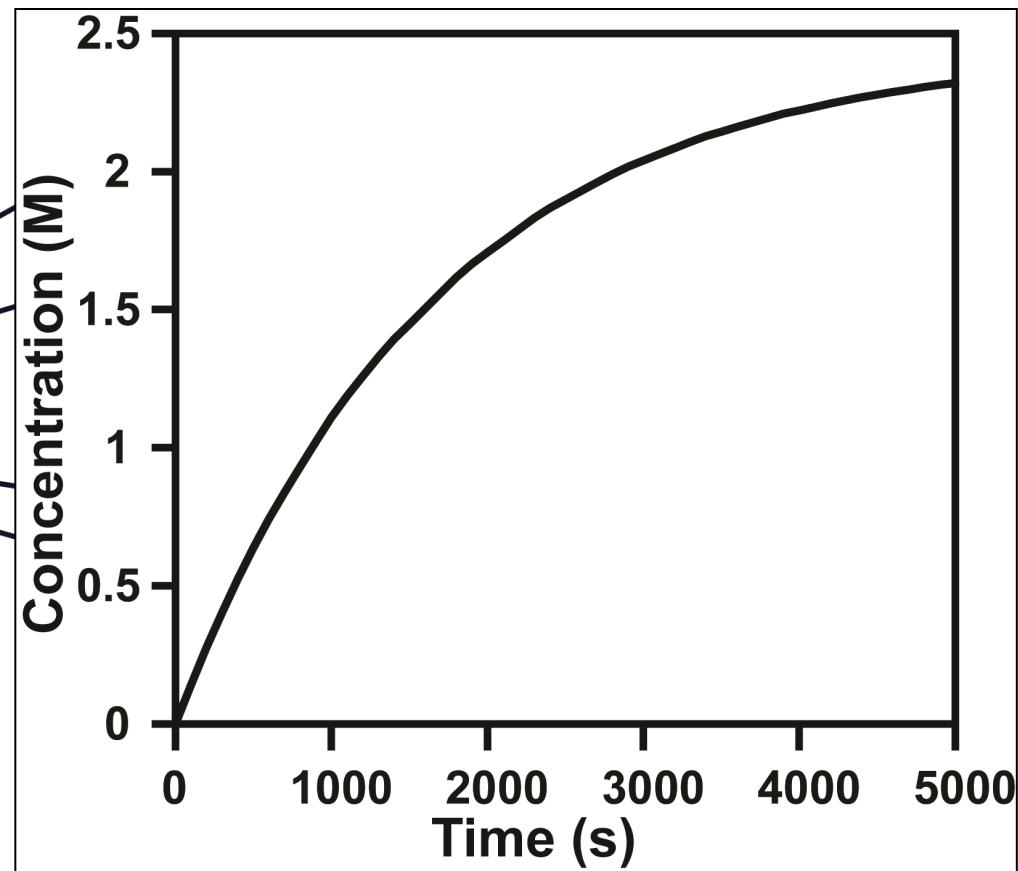
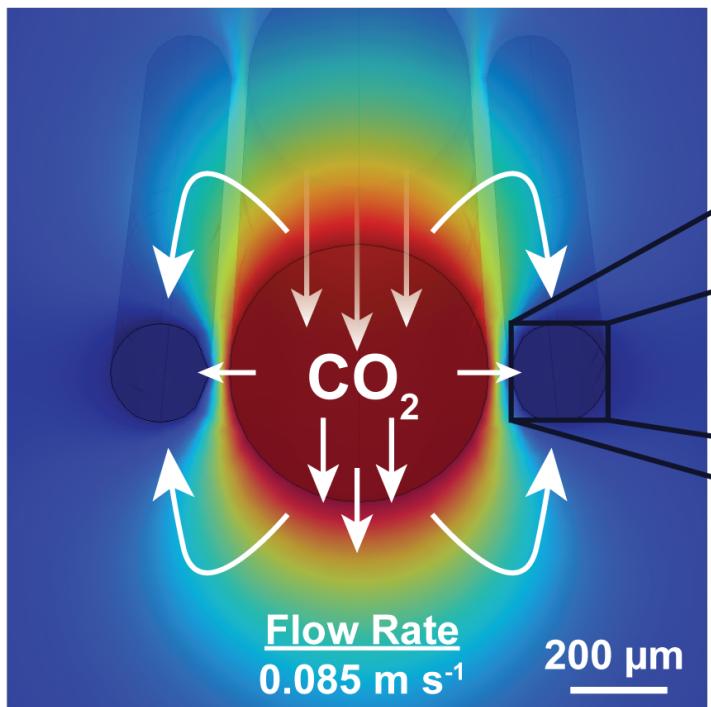


Dang, H.; Rochelle, G. T. *Separation Science and Technology* 2003, 38, 337.

Maceiras, R. Álvarez, E.; Cancela, M. Á. *Chem. Eng. J.* 2008, 138, 295-300.

Merkel, T. C. Bondar, V. I. Nagai, K. Freeman, B. D.; Pinna, I. *J. Polym. Sci., Part B: Polym. Phys.* 2000, 38, 415-434.

# Modeling to Understand Experiment

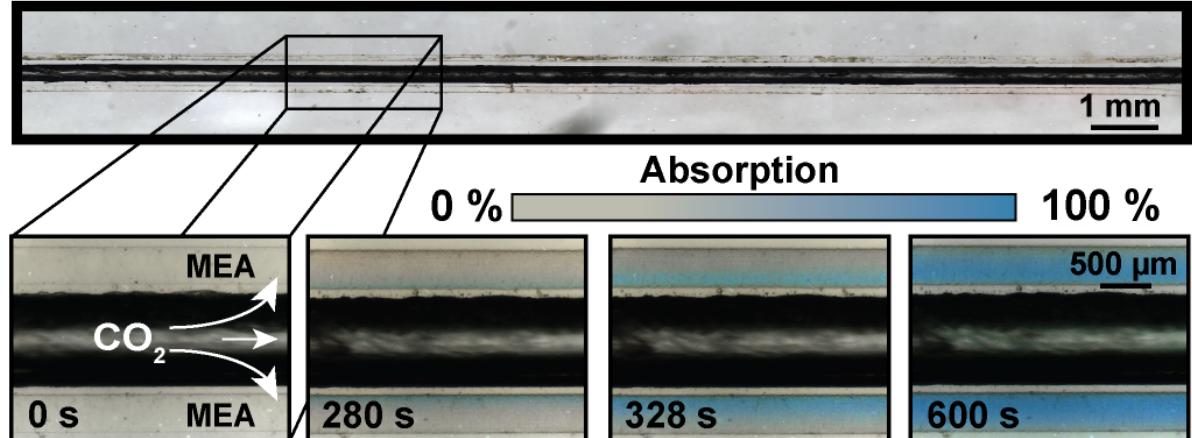
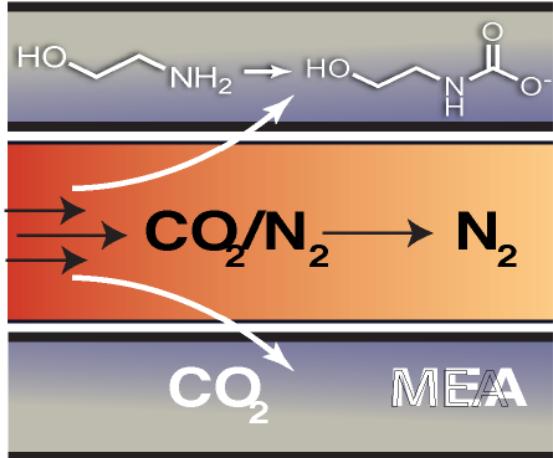


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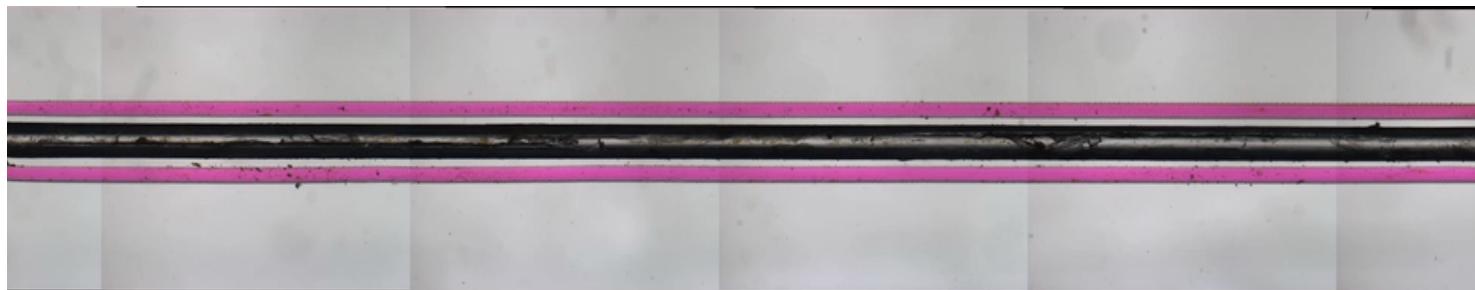
Maceiras, R. Álvarez, E.; Cancela, M. Á. Chem. Eng. J. 2008, 138, 295-300.

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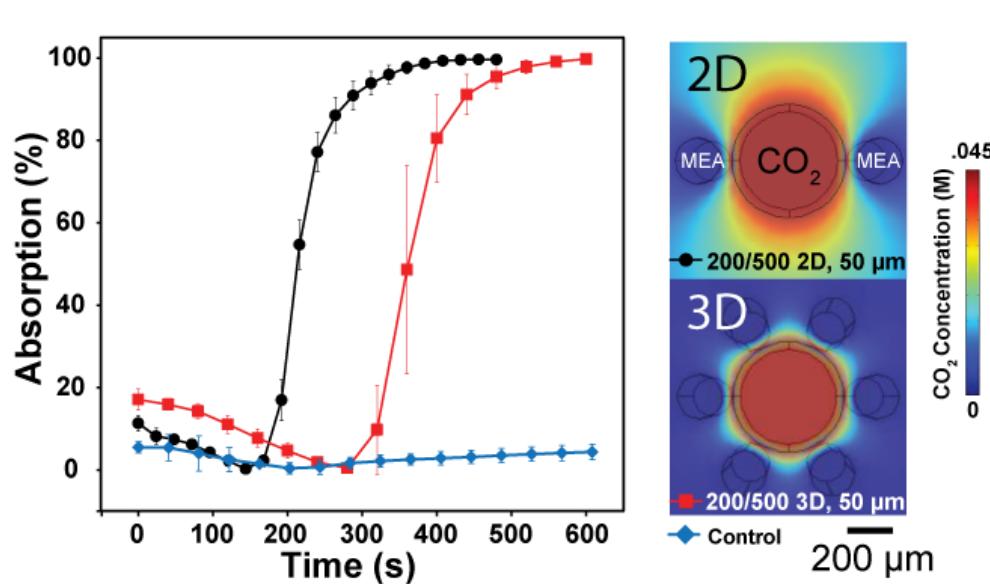
# Spatio-Temporal Nature of Reaction



- $\text{CO}_2$  Saturated Solution (pH ~8)
- Empty (pH ~13)



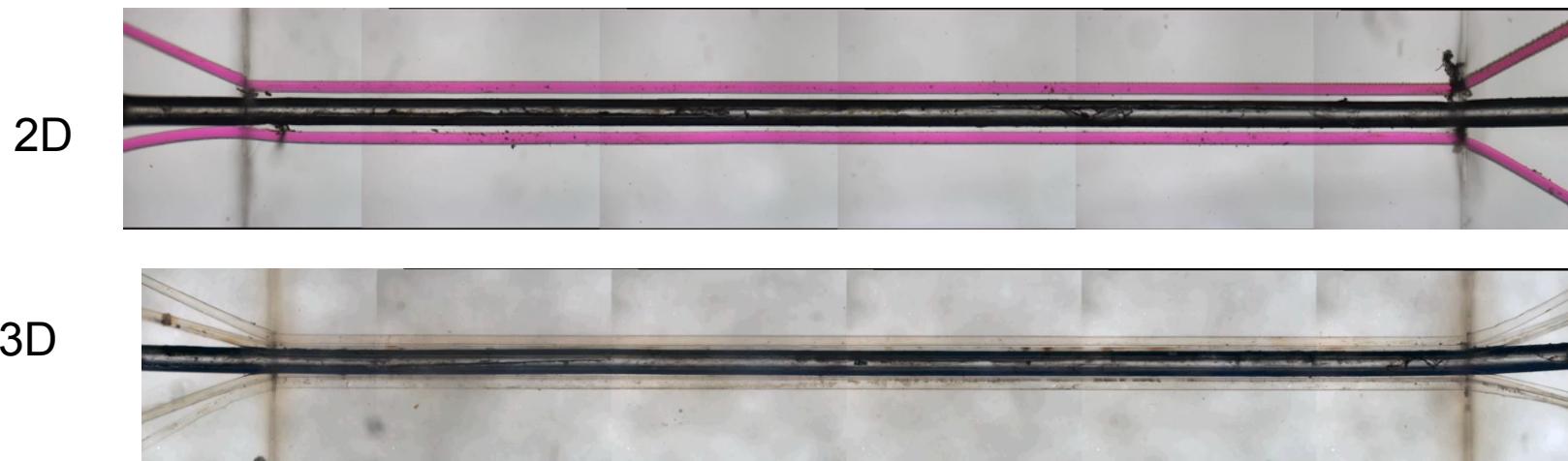
# 2D vs. 3D : Visualizing Reactivity



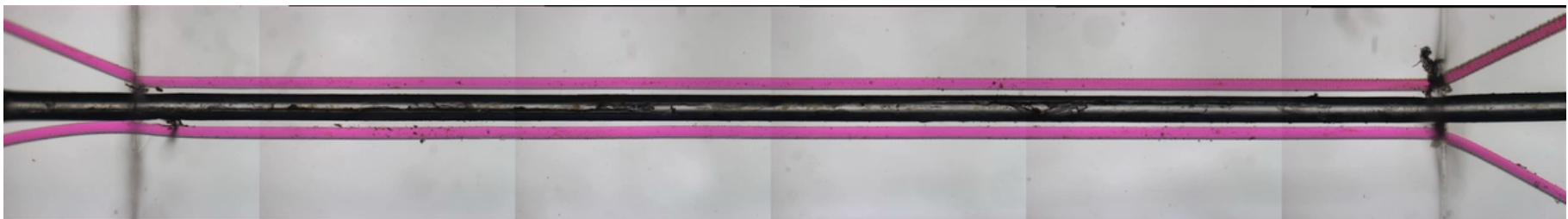
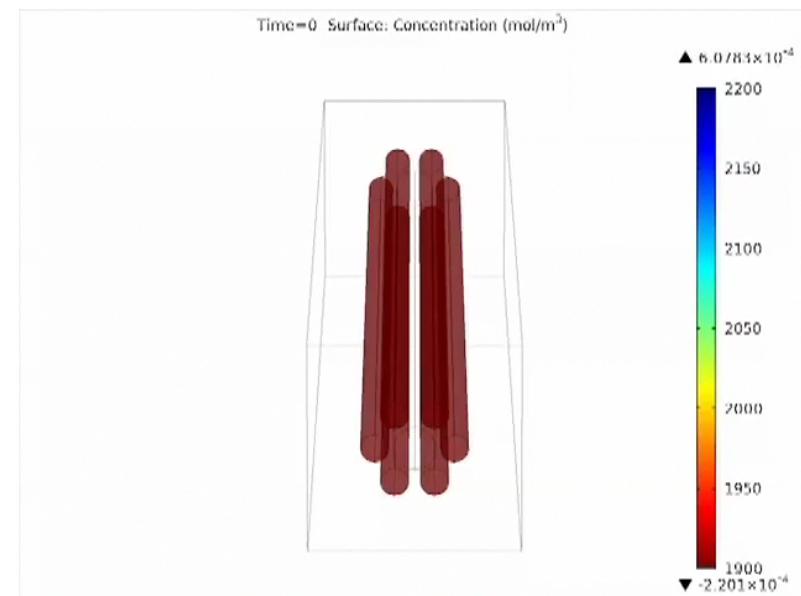
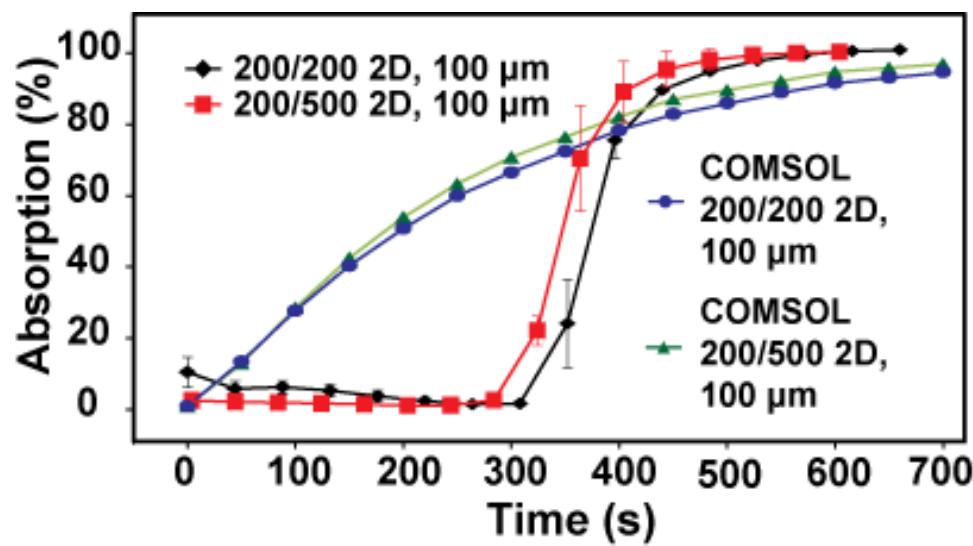
Mass Transfer Rate  
Pure CO<sub>2</sub>

$1.66 \pm .17 \text{ mol/m}^2 \text{ hr}$

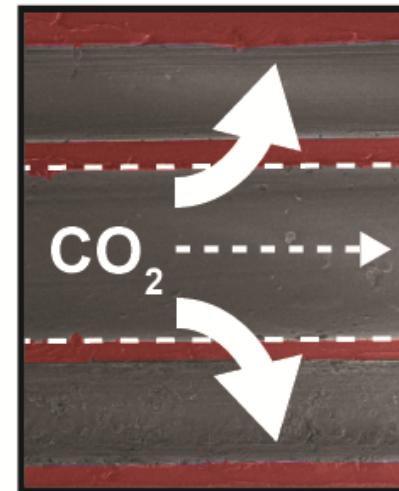
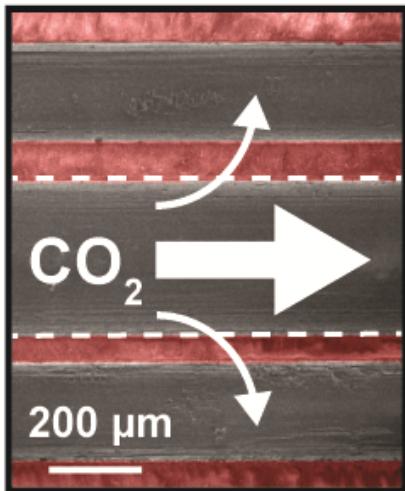
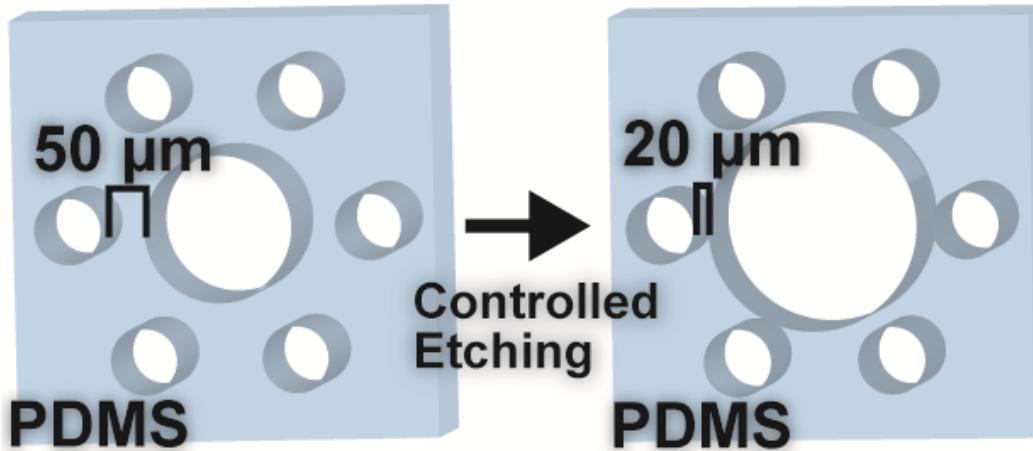
$2.96 \pm .35 \text{ mol/m}^2 \text{ hr}$



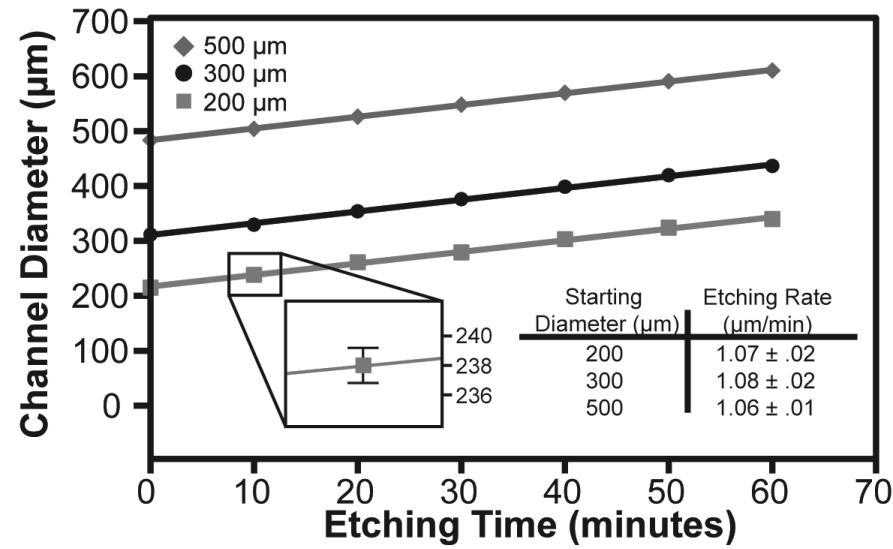
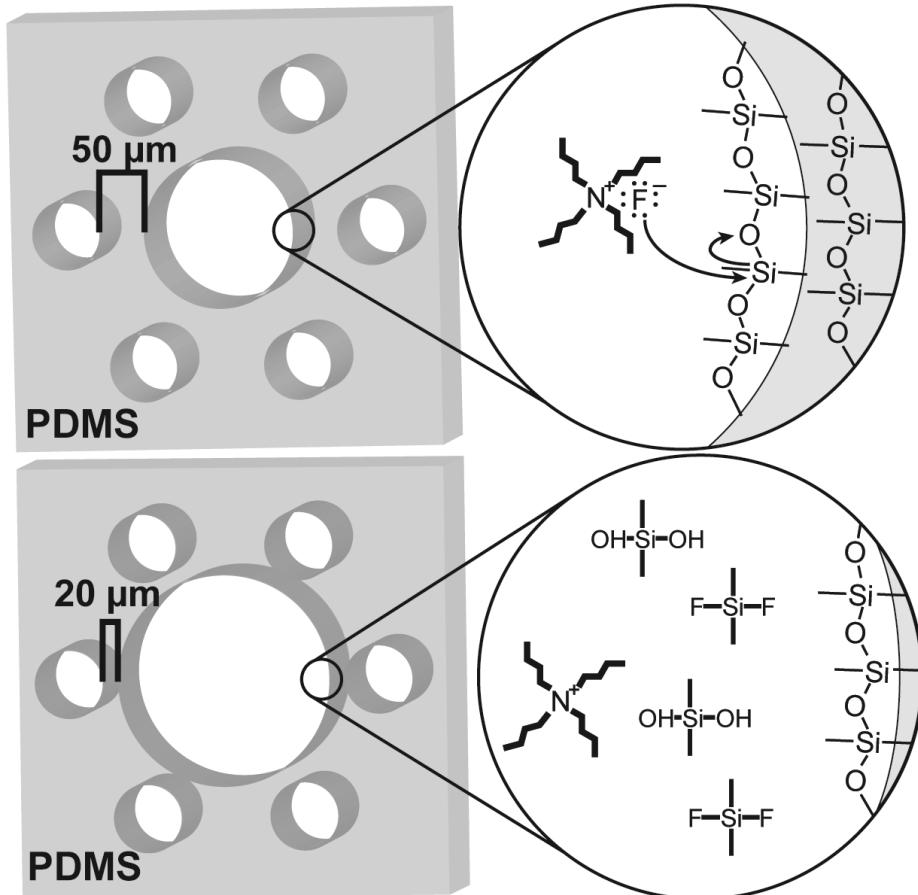
# Matching Modeling and Experiment



# Controlling Transfer By Changing Unit Geometry

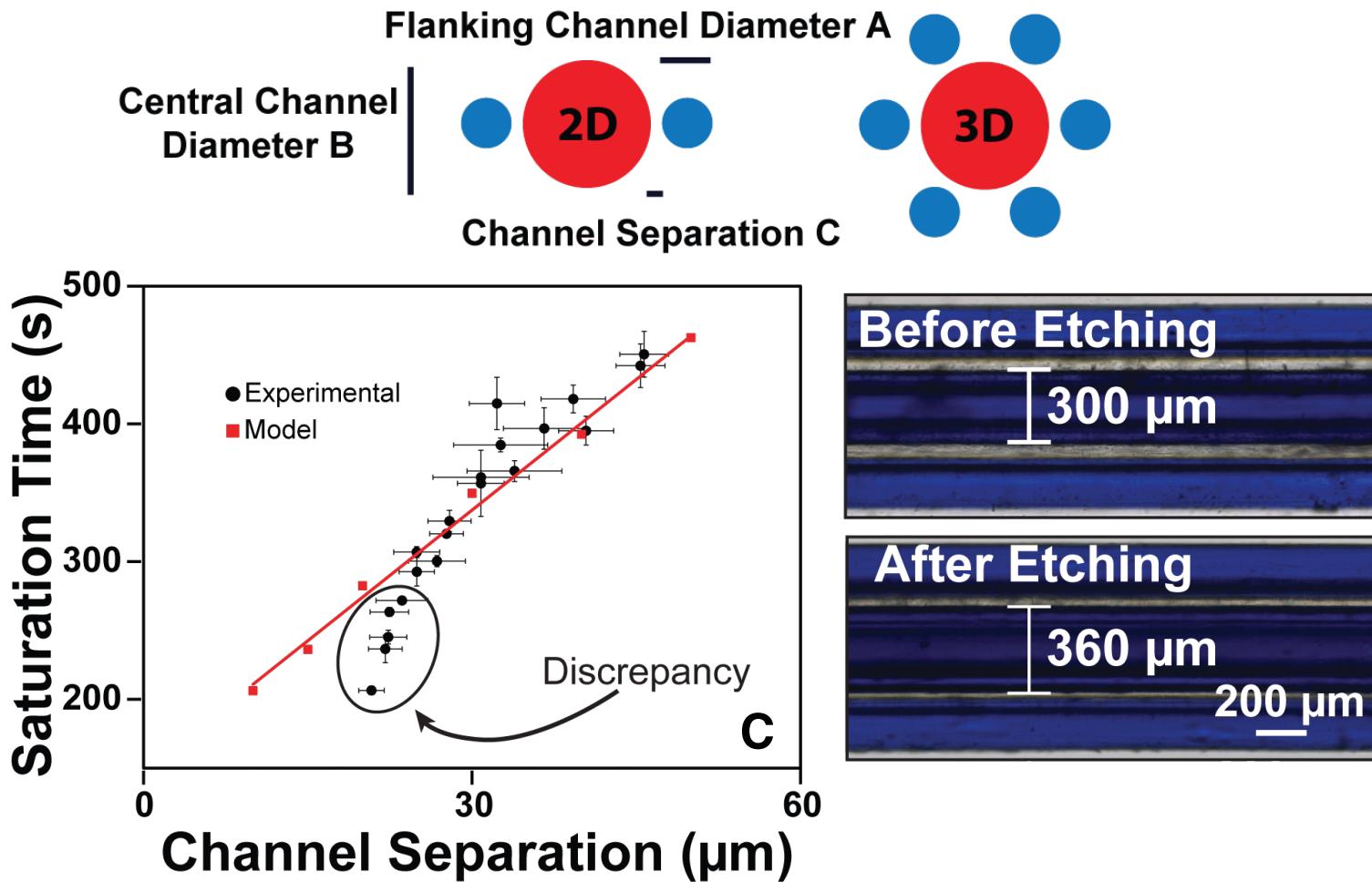


# Etching with Micron Precision



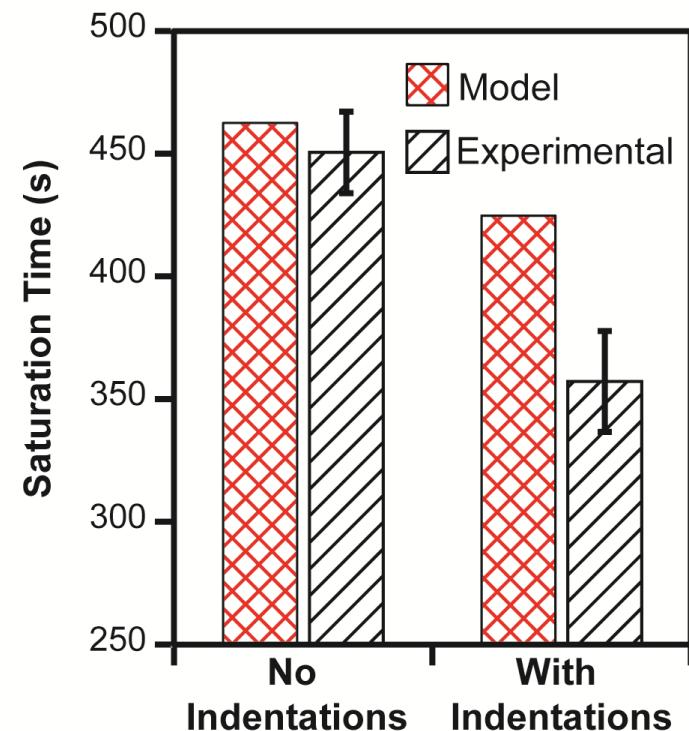
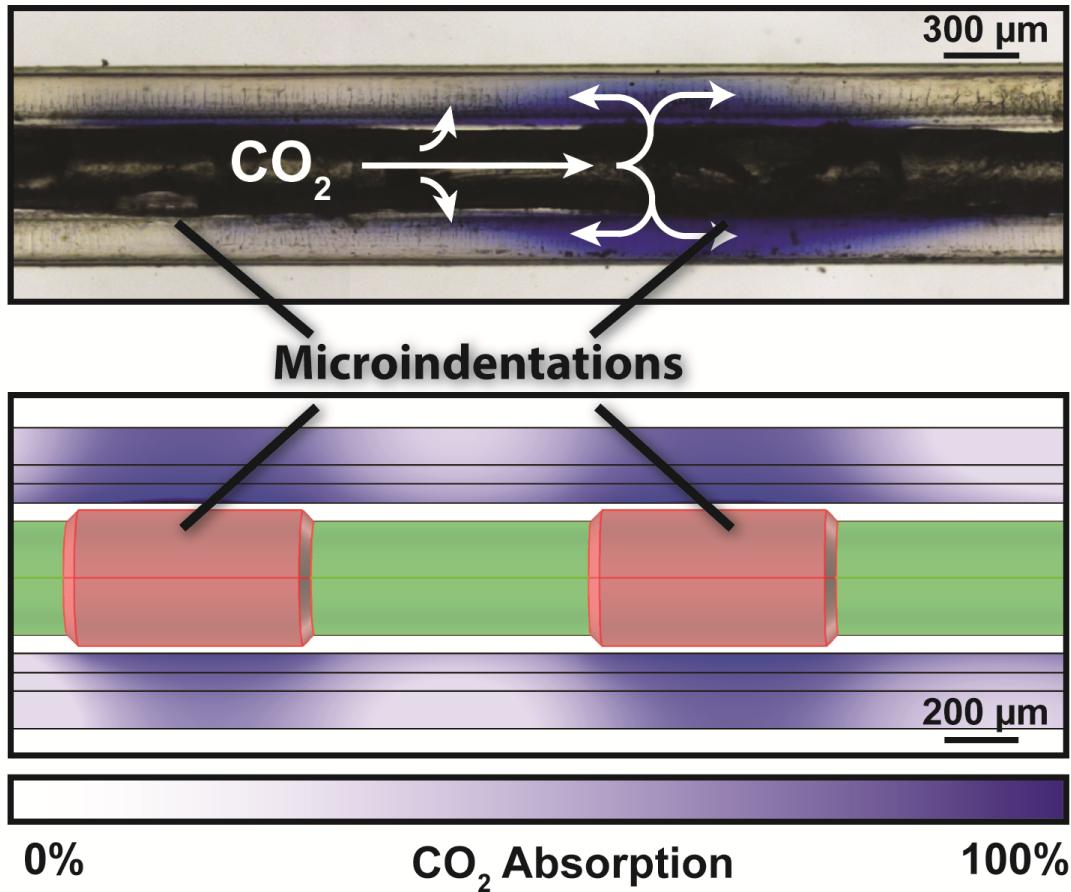
Flow Rate ( $\text{mL min}^{-1}$ )	Etching Rate ( $\mu\text{m min}^{-1}$ )
2.00	$1.07 \pm .03$
1.00	$0.97 \pm .02$
0.50	$1.06 \pm .01$
0.25	$0.85 \pm .03$

# Controlling Channel Separation

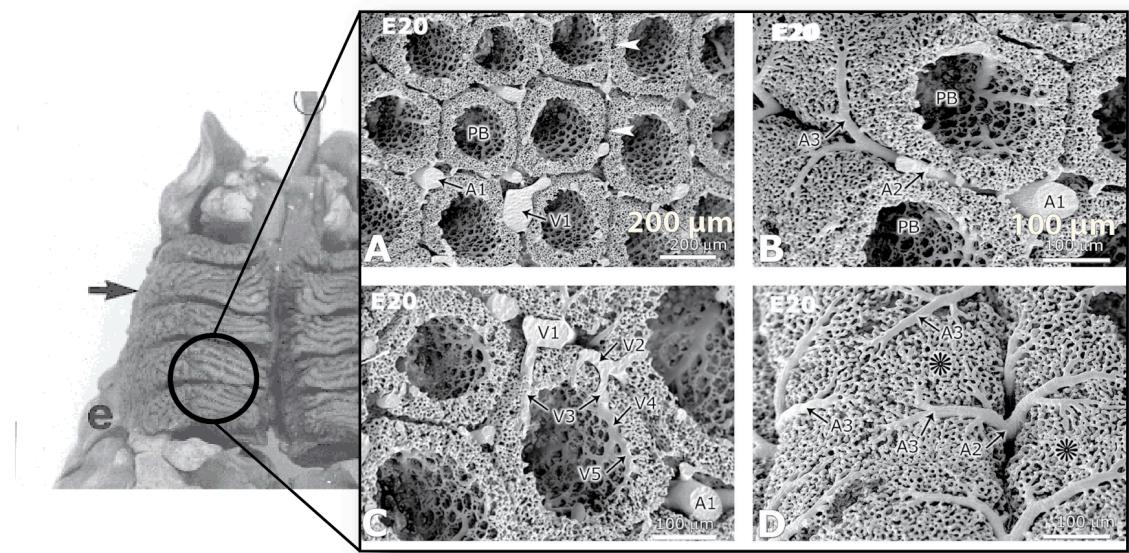
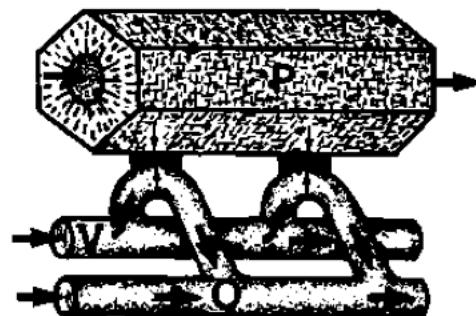


**Etching Allows Control Over Reaction Rate**

# Modeling Reveal Micro-Indents are Key



# How do we get to here?

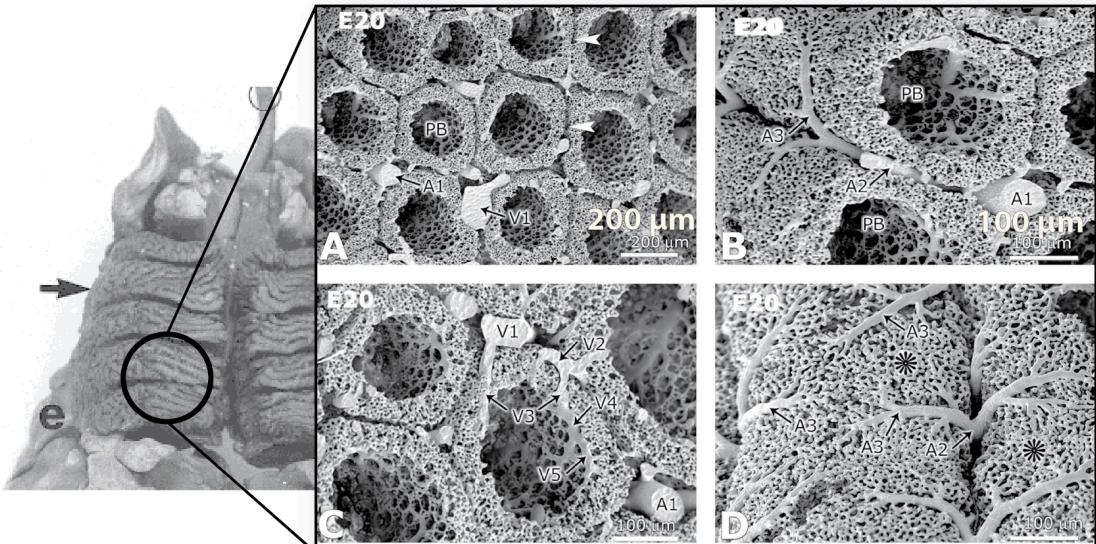


More Complex Structures

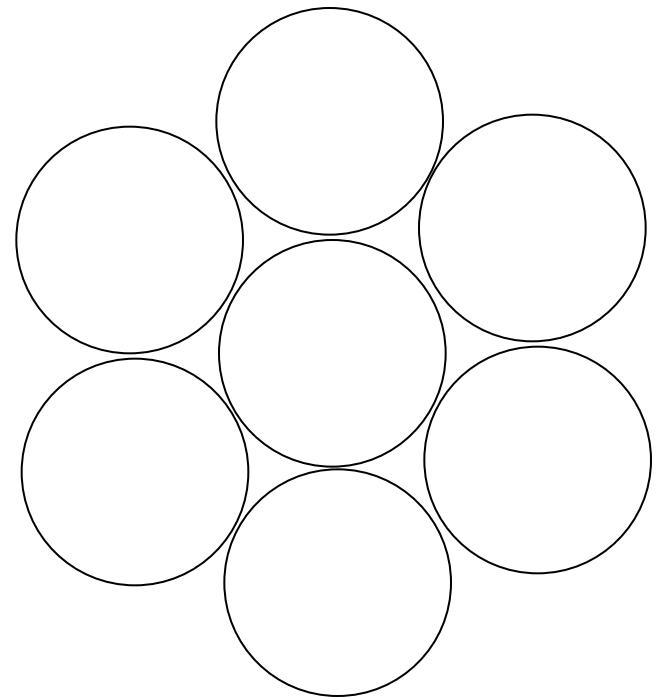
Specific Surface Area =  $200,000 \text{ m}^2 \text{ m}^{-3}$

i.e) What's coming up next?

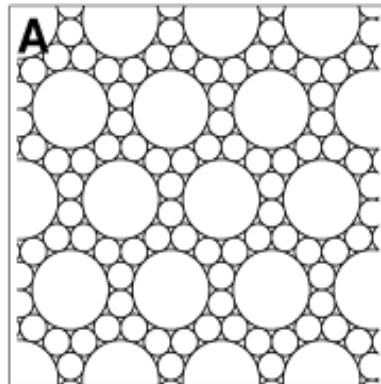
# Packing to achieve efficiency



**Specific Surface Area = 200,000  $\text{m}^2 \text{ m}^{-3}$**

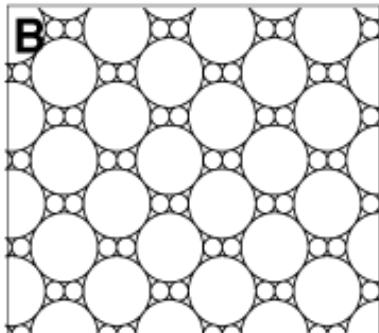


# Searching for the optimized unit: A packing problem



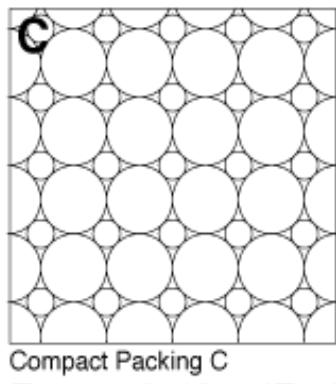
Compact Packing A

$$R_{\text{small}} = 0.35 \times (R_{\text{big}})$$



Compact Packing B

$$R_{\text{small}} = 0.28 \times (R_{\text{big}})$$



Compact Packing C

$$R_{\text{small}} = 0.42 \times (R_{\text{big}})$$

**Mass Transfer Unit**

**Specific Surface Area**  
 $\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$

Wetted Wall 100-300

Hollow Membrane Contactor  $\sim 1500-3000$

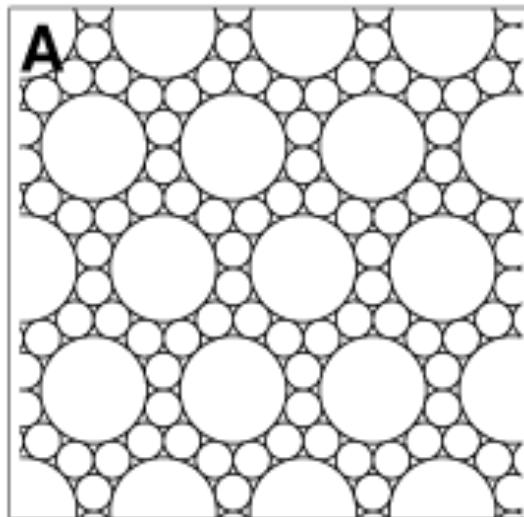
Our Previous Pattern  $\sim 2000-2800$

Dense, Compact Pattern A 3549

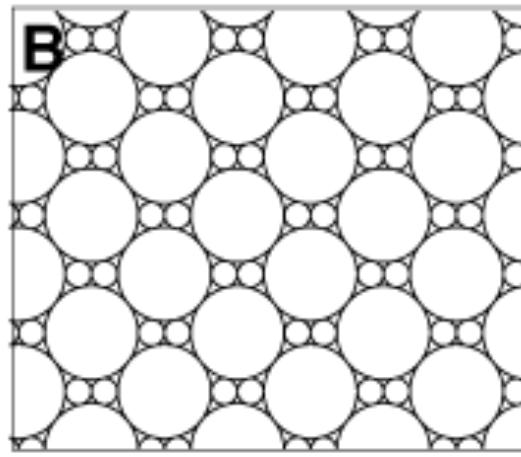
Dense, Compact Pattern B 5180

Dense, Compact Pattern C 4601

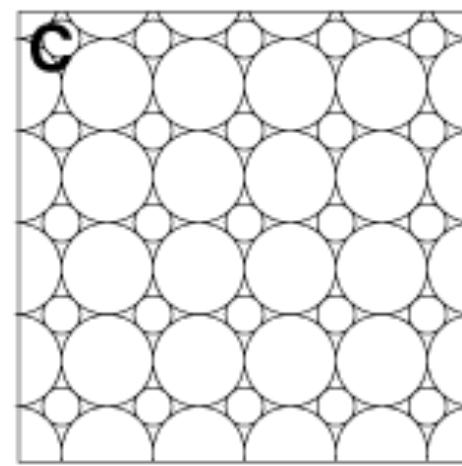
# Synthesizing Compact, Packed Geometry



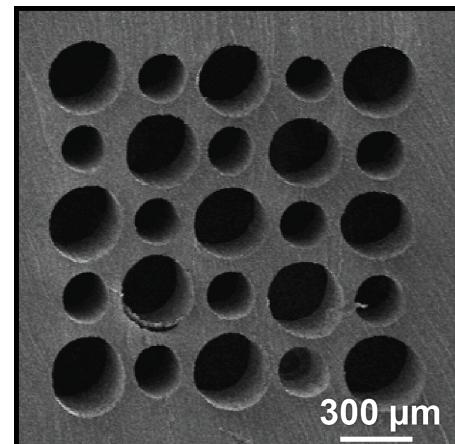
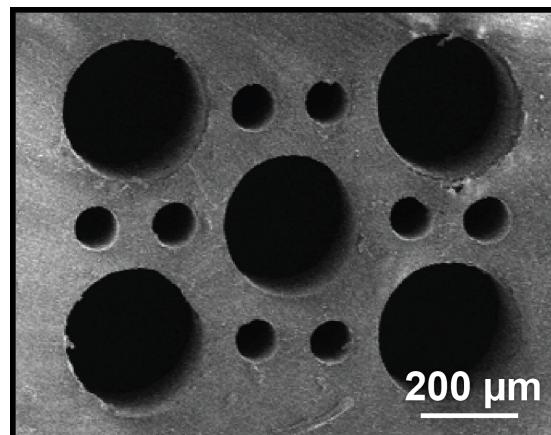
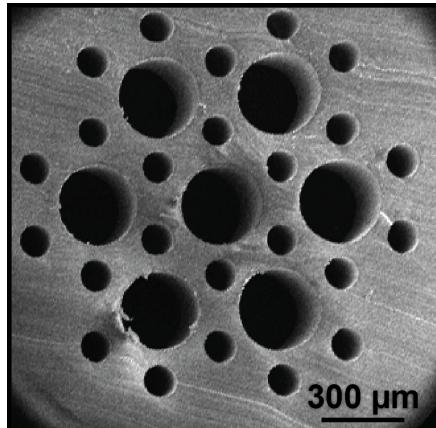
$$R_{\text{small}} = 0.35 \times (R_{\text{big}})$$



$$R_{\text{small}} = 0.28 \times (R_{\text{big}})$$

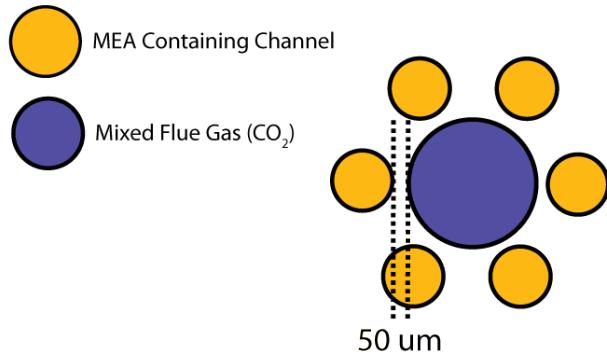


$$R_{\text{small}} = 0.42 \times (R_{\text{big}})$$



Full Set Coming 2013

# Comparison of Channel Arrangements

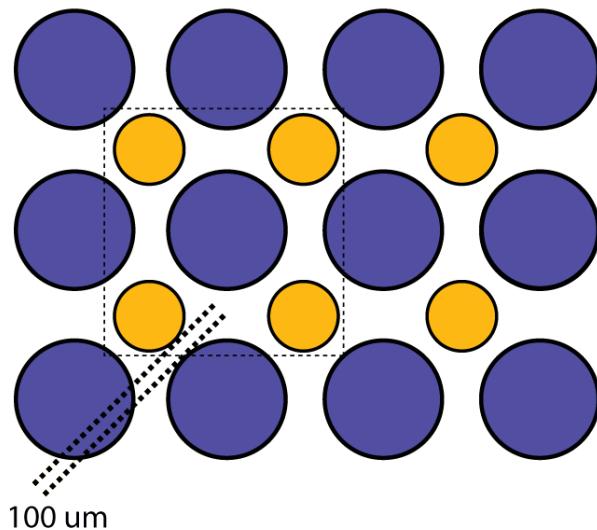


Mass Transfer Rate

Pure CO<sub>2</sub>

$mol \cdot m^{-2} \cdot hr^{-1}$

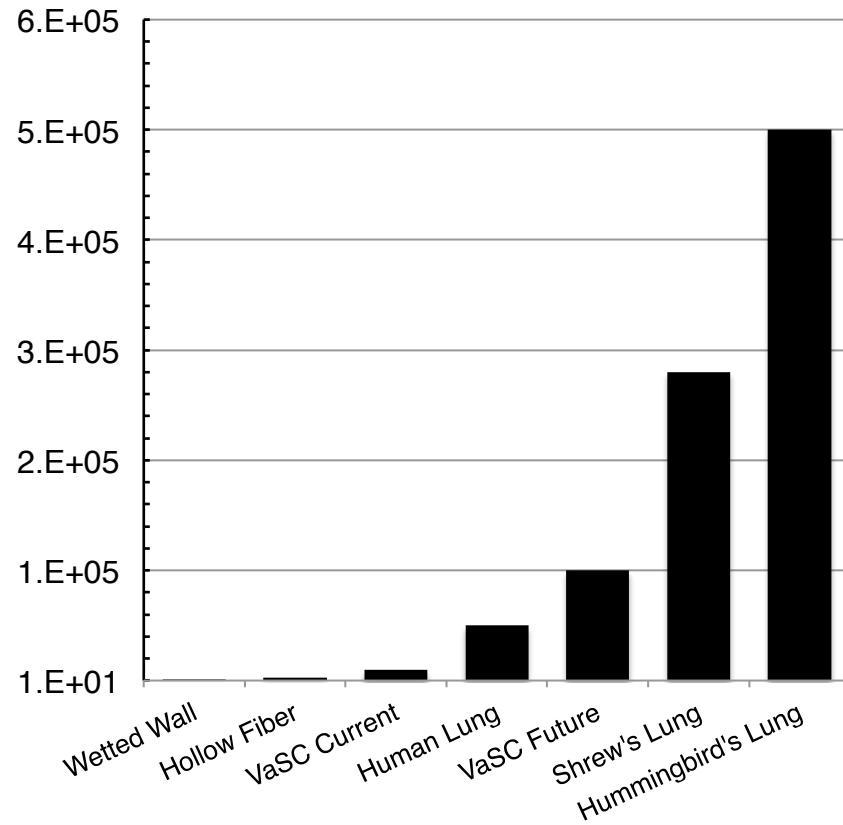
$2.96 \pm 0.35$



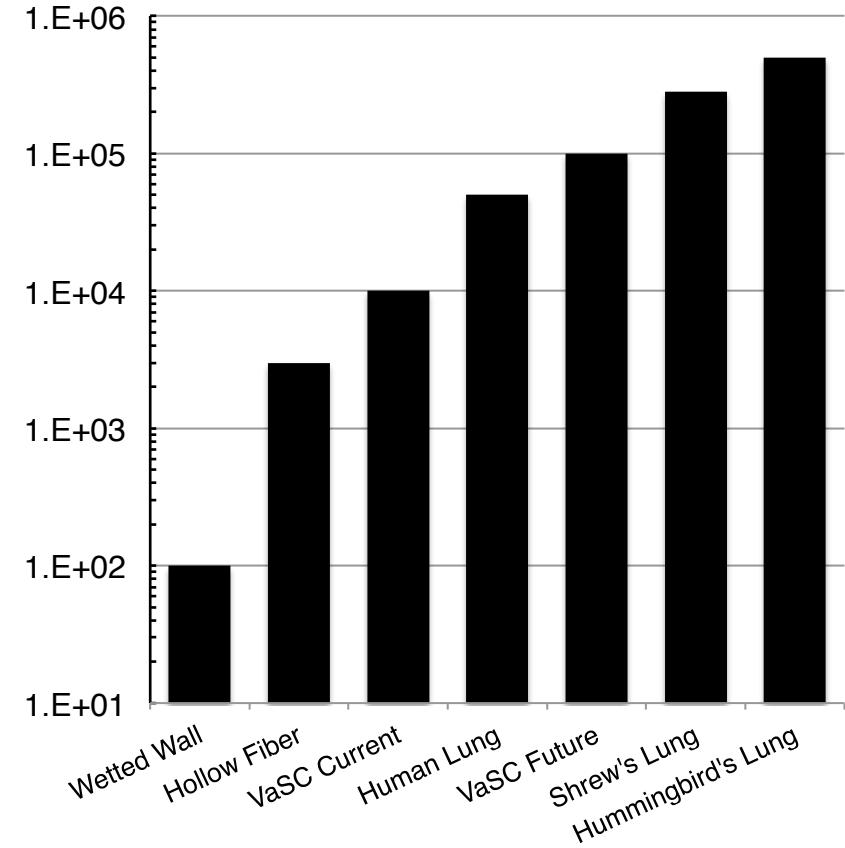
$3.4 \pm 0.25$

# Where does VaSC fit in?

Specific Surface Area ( $\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$ )

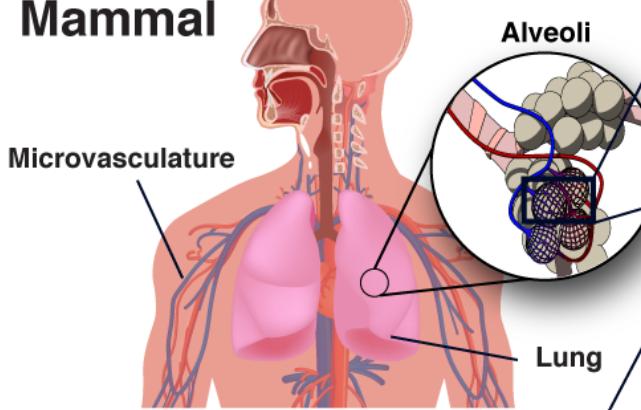


Specific Surface Area Log scale

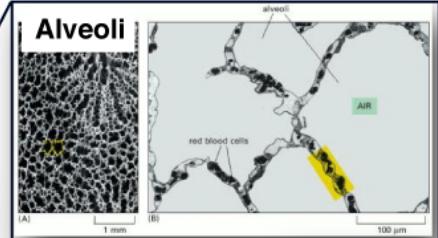


# What about Heat Exchange?

## Mammal

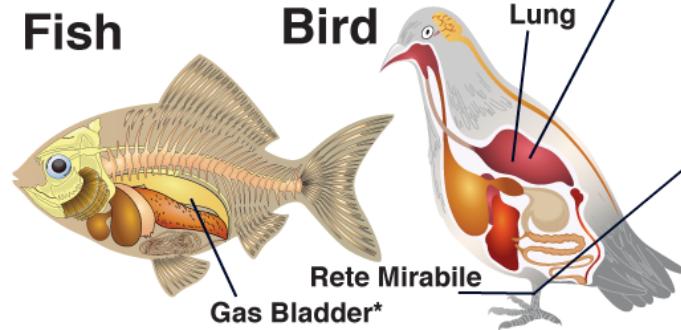


## Gas Exchange/Capture

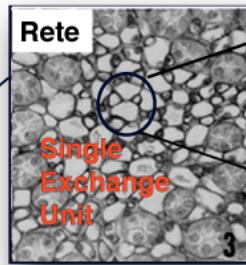


## 3D Gas Exchange Unit

## Fish



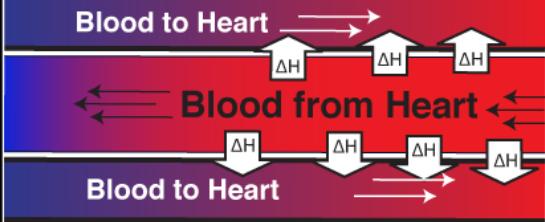
## Thermal Exchange



## 3D Heat Exchange Unit

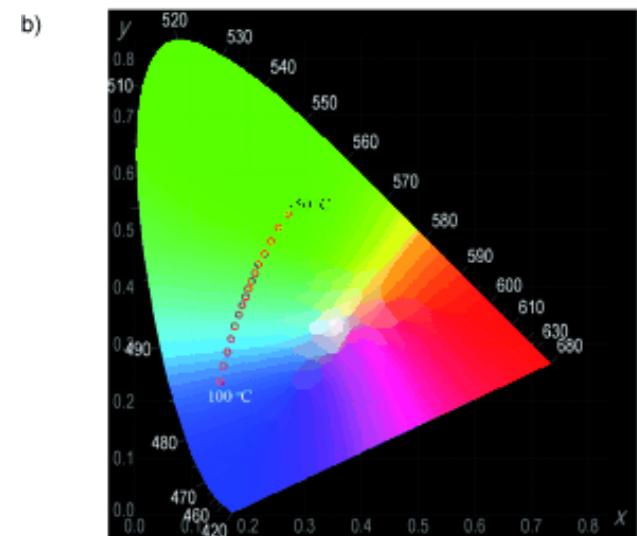
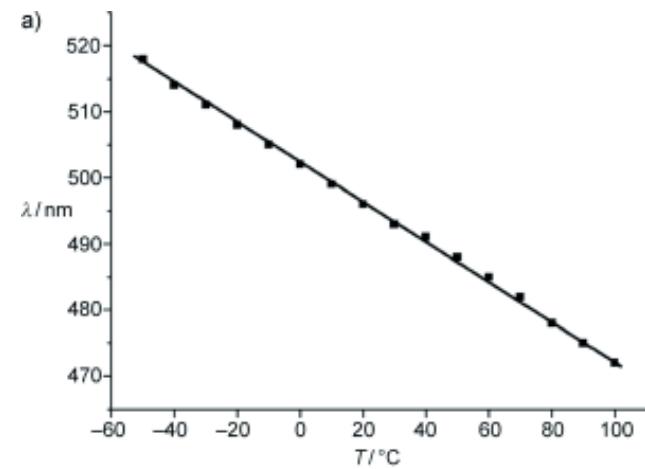
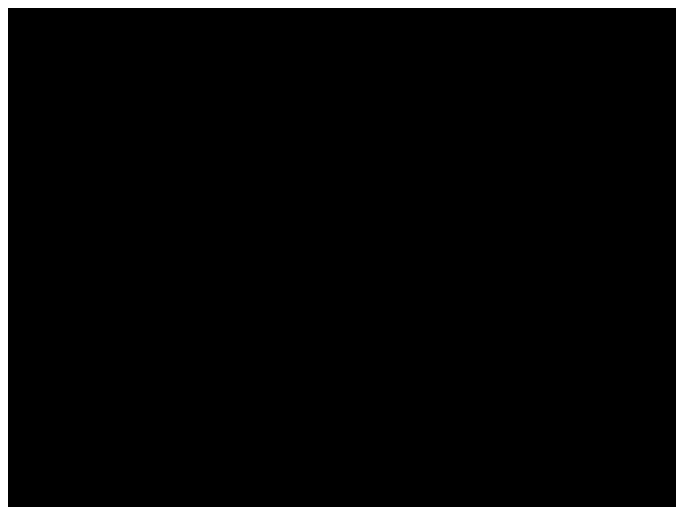
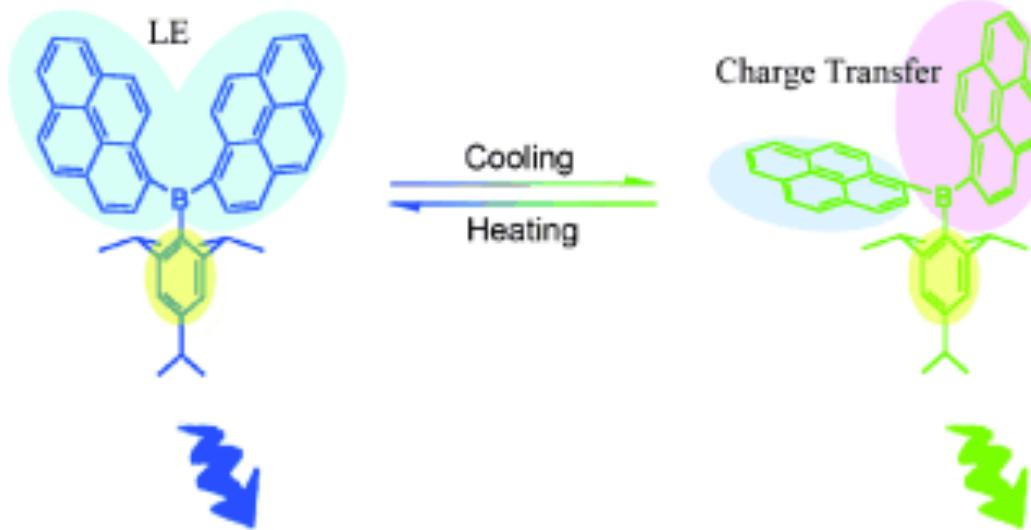


## 2D Perspective

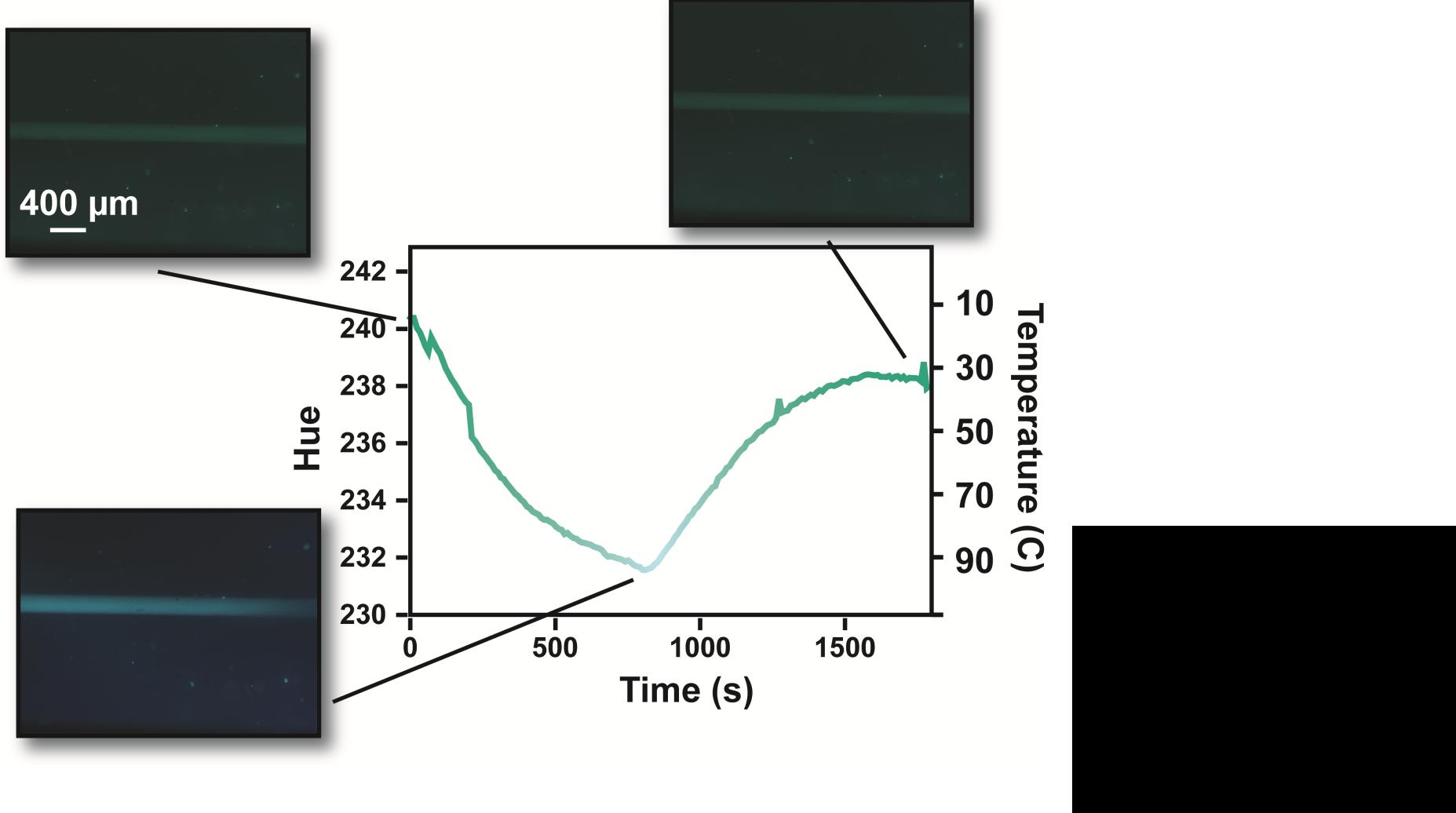


Thermal And Gas Exchange Are Based On Same Structures

# A Fluorescent Thermometer

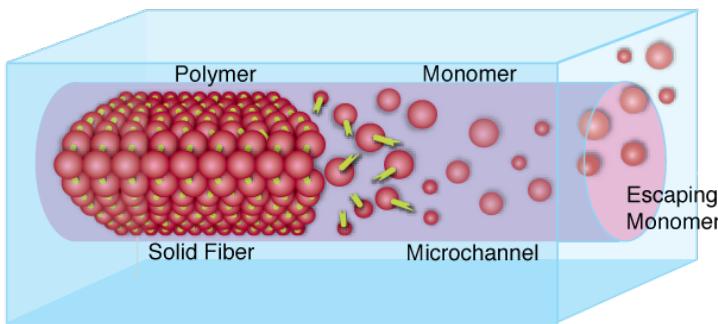


# Temperature in Micro-Vascular Material

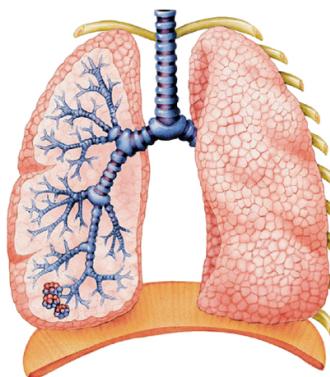


# Micro-Vascular Exchange Units : Bio-Inspired Energy & Mass Transfer

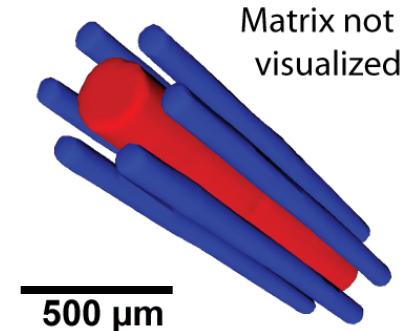
## VaSC



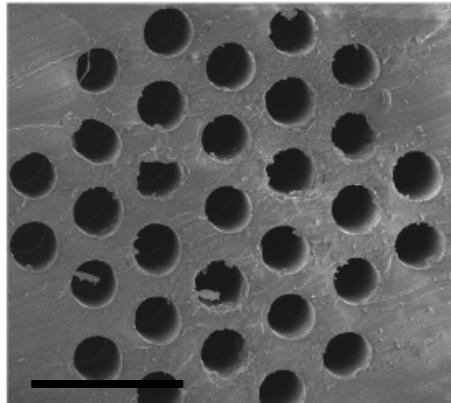
## Our Motivation



## Exchange Unit



## Hierarchy



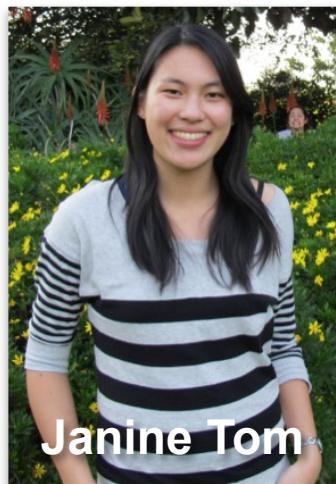
## Next Year

Heat Transfer

Full  
Hierarchy

500 μm

# Acknowledgements



UCIRVINE

3M

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